

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA FAITH IN ACTION KNIGHTS SERVING GOD SERVING THE COMMUNITY



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ARIZONA STATE COUNCIL

April 2019

State Deputy's Message

Brothers,

We are halfway through our Lenten Journey. This is our time to repent, Fast and give alms. We leave behind all our earthly concerns, deny ourselves, fast, and reconcile ourselves with the Lord, and give without thought. Jesus has begun his public ministry, chosen his first disciples, and is on the road to Jerusalem where he will institute the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist during the Last Supper, be arrested, scourged, crucified, and die for our sins. But, wait! There's more. On the third day, his tomb is found empty because, as he told his disciples many times, the Son of Man will rise from the dead. I wish you and your families a most joyous Easter!

Don't forget. The convention is just around the corner. The website for the State Convention on May 17-19, 2019 is active and can be found at https://www.azkofcstateconvention.org. Register and make your hotel reservations early. Get your council delegates elected and credential requests submitted. Also, submit your convention registration, reserve your room, and purchase an advertisement in the program book. I look forward to seeing all my brothers at the Convention.

It is sad to report that our membership numbers for the year are far below where they should be at this point in the year. At last check, we are just past the mid-point of our goal. With just three months remaining, we have much work to be done. Beginning March 25 through April 9 four membership townhalls are taking place to provide councils and districts with additional tools to help enhance recruitment efforts. Check the website for more information. Remember to include recruitment as part of every Council program and encourage every Knight to recruit at least one new member. Our goal is still attainable with your commitment and hard work. My thanks to Worthy State Warden Kevin McCarthy for taking over as the State Membership Director. Please contact Kevin if you have questions or need help. He can be reached at membership@kofc-az.org. Additionally, Bobby was appointed as the Membership Chairmen Assistant, Bobby Nielsen is from Tucson Council 8077. He can be reached at bereached at bnielsen200@gmail.com.

I challenge you Grand Knights and District Deputies to claim your spot at the top. Grand Knights join your brothers: Gary Kluthe of Council 17036 at 450% of goal and Manual Chimal of Council 14804 at 325% of goal. Is there not one of you who can recruit more than the 19 members recruited by Albert Ustaszewski from Council 8305? Remember to submit membership forms as soon as possible so that your efforts can be counted. These brothers are the ones remaining on Supremes' membership incentive leaderboard. Let's fill the Supreme leaderboard with Arizonans!

This past month it was my honor to recognize Worthy Associate State Chaplain, Reverend Gary Regula. Fr. Gary is the Pastor of St. Jerome Catholic Church in Phoenix and Chaplain of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Council 7465. As a priest and Knight, Fr. Gary truly exemplifies the principles of the order and embodies the precepts of the Catholic Church and virtues of Knighthood. His spiritual guidance and support of the Knights and member of his local and the State Council; are immeasurable. For these reasons I named him as the Class Honoree for March's Formation and Knighthood degrees in Phoenix. Congratulations Fr. Gary!

This coming month, please focus on the remainder of your Lenten journey, celebrate a joyous Easter, prepare for the State Convention, and continue to recruit as part of the spring membership drive. Let's meet our membership goal. Don't allow one Catholic man to be without knowing the benefits of membership in the Knights of Columbus.

Vivat Jesus!

Tom Kalisz State Deputy

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2019 State Convention of the Knights of Columbus Arizona State Council will be held on May 17-18 in Phoenix, AZ





Universal–Workers in War Zones

For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war zones, who risk their lives to save the lives of others.





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Prayer for Vocations

Prayer for Our Priests

Holy and provident Father, You are the Lord of the vineyard and the harvest and You give each a just reward for their work. In your design of love You call men and women to work with You for the salvation of the world. We thank You for Jesus Christ, your living Word, who has redeemed us from our sins and is among us to assist us in our poverty. Guide the flock to which You have promised possession of the kingdom. Send new workers into your harvest and set in the hearts of pastors faithfulness to your plan of salvation, perseverance in their vocation and holiness of life.

Christ Jesus, who on the shores of the Sea of Galilee called the Apostles and made them the foundation of the Church and bearers of your Gospel, in our day, sustain your people on its journey. Give courage to those whom You call to follow You in the priesthood and the consecrated life, so that they may enrich God's field with wisdom of your Word. Make them docile instruments of your love in everyday service of their brothers and sisters.

Spirit of holiness, who pour out your gifts on all believers and, especially, on those called to be Christ's ministers, help young people to discover the beauty of the divine call. Teach them the true way of prayer, which is nourished by the Word of God. Help them to read the signs of the times, so as to be faithful interpreters of your Gospel and bearers of salvation. Mary, Virgin who listened and Virgin of the Word of God made flesh in your womb, help us to be open to the Word of the Lord, so that, having been welcomed and meditated upon, it may grow in our hearts. Help us to live like You the beatitudes of believers and to dedicate ourselves with unceasing charity to evangelizing all those who seek your Son. Grant that we may serve every person, becoming servants of the Word we have heard, so that remaining faithful to it we may find our happiness in living it. Amen

Pope John Paull II

O Jesus, our great High Priest, Hear my humble prayers on behalf of your priest, Father [N]. Give him a deep faith, a bright and firm hope and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of his priestly life.

In his loneliness, comfort him In his sorrows, strengthen him In his frustrations, point out to him that it is through suffering that the soul is purified, and show him that he is needed by the Church, he is needed by souls, he is needed for the work of redemption.

O loving Mother Mary, Mother of Priests, take to your heart your son who is close to you because of his priestly ordination, and because of the power which he has received to carry on the work of Christ in a world which needs him so much. Be his comfort, be his joy, be his strength, and especially help him to live and to defend the ideals of consecrated celibacy.

Amen.





SERVING THE COMMUNITY



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State Secretary - Mario Vassallo

Brothers,

The State Per Capita Assessments for the period January – June 2019 were sent to each council in the middle of January with a second notice sent early March to those that had not yet paid. We have still 15 councils that are delinquent. Paying both the Supreme and State Per Capita is a requirement for a council to seat its delegates at the upcoming State Convention. If your council has not paid the State Per Capita yet, please submit the payment to me as soon as possible.

At the March State Officers Meeting, the State Officers voted to approve PWID grants from the funds allocated to the State Council as follows:

Arizona Special Olympics	\$10,873
Special Olympics – White Mountains Area	\$580
Blessed Sacrament Catholic Parish – Emmaus Retreat	\$2,956
All Saints Catholic School – Tuition covering 2 special needs students	\$2,898
New Day Train to Sustain	\$5,796
Gompers Assistive Technology	\$1,198
Sharing Down Syndrome AZ – Angels Among Us	\$5,738
Navigators	\$2,463

The deadline to submit the Council Delegate Election Form is **April 1, 2019**. We still haven't heard from several councils. Councils who have not yet submitted their form should do so as soon as possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a very Happy and Blessed Easter.

Vivat Jesus!

Mario Vassallo

State Secretary Arizona KofC State Council

Email: StateSecretary@kofc-az.org

Faith In Action
Serving God, Serving the Community



SERVING THE COMMUNITY



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State Advocate – Tom Kato

Brothers,

The event that occurred in Montreal the morning of March 22, 2019 is reprehensible. However, this is not a "call to arms" for the members of the Knights of Columbus.

Remember that security should be provided by trained personnel at the request of the pastor.

Below is the article from Supreme on their guidelines. Let me know if you have any questions.

Responding to Requests to Provide Security Services:

Members of the Knights of Columbus are sometimes asked by parishes, dioceses, or other organizations to perform security duties. Knights of Columbus does not include security services among any of its programs, activities, or events. Knights of Columbus offers no security training to its members. Consequently, members of the Knights of Columbus, as members, are not authorized to carry out security functions in the name of the Knights of Columbus. Security functions should be provided only by trained professionals and who are properly insured through a security company. Members who are asked to provide security services should politely decline and redirect the person looking for such services to professional security agencies. Parishes requiring security have the obligation to obtain professional securities services on behalf of the parish.

This policy is the same for councils and assemblies. Fourth Degree Color Corps, including the Honor Guard and Color Guard, are strictly ceremonial. Fourth Degree members serving in these roles should clearly understand themselves as serving a ceremonial function and never as security guards. Security services are not contemplated by the Charter, Constitution and Laws, nor are they contemplated by the Laws and Rules Governing the Fourth Degree, or the Color Corps Drill Manual.

Fraternal roles like Warden, Outside Guard, Inside Guard, Master, Marshal, Pilot, Sentinel, Color Corps Commander, etc. likewise are administrative and ceremonial in nature.

Members may serve in an observer role (e.g., at the distribution of Holy Communion at mass, etc.), event traffic/parking control (e.g., directing cars in the parish parking lot), and greeting and registering people at events and activities.

To the extent that a member wishes to perform security duties as a trained professional working for a parish, diocese or other organization, he may not wear any insignia identifying himself as a member of the Knights of Columbus while he is engaged in that activity.

Tom Kato

State Advocate
Knights of Columbus Arizona State Council



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State Warden - Kevin McCarthy

My Brother Knights,

As I write this we're in the middle of a series of Membership Round Tables scheduled across the state. Attendees have had the opportunity to ask questions, share insights, and learn about a great new way to conduct Church Drives, called the "Delta Church Drive". We'll be posting more information on this drive soon but suffice it to say it's a simpler approach that any council can do. Stay tuned.

Don't forget about setting up a new member prospect landing page which you can use at your recruiting events. The prospect landing page is a key component of the Delta Church Drive. All you need to do is described in an informative document you can download from http://kofcknights.org/States/ProspectLandingPages.pdf.

Check out the homepage of our state web site. https://kofc-az.org . Along with how we're doing as a state, the Top 10 councils, Top District Deputy, and Top Recruiter are listed there. If you're on the list, congratulations! If not, work hard and get there!

Brothers, including eMembers, we have slipped from 16th to 17th in the Order as a percent of our membership intake goal. Even with our still relatively high rank, we're slipping on our member intake over where we were at this time last year and have had a significant number of suspensions and withdrawals. As of this report, 99 fewer members have taken their Admission Degree compared to last year. 30 active councils have not recruited a single member. While we always come on strong in the second half of the fraternal year, we have some really hard work to do to reach our goals. We still need 398 members to reach our goal of 1000 new members, and if you do the math that's 133 new members each month for the remainder of the year. I know we can do it. It's just one member per council per month, but with a number of councils not recruiting at all, the rest of us will really need to step up! We have a moral obligation to offer the benefits of membership to every eligible Catholic gentleman.

Remember, this year we're "AMPing it up".

A stands for Altar support, working hard to earn and obtain support from the Pastor and priests of the parish. The new Church Drive relies heavily on having a strong relationship with our priests. Supporting our priests is our duty. Support from our priests is priceless.

M stands for Membership (and I'd also include Marketing), working hard to Inform every eligible Catholic Gentleman of the benefits of membership in our Order and promoting – marketing our programs, showing how indispensable our councils are to the parish.

P stands for Programs. This is especially important with our new "Faith in Action" model which has a strong spiritual and faith-based component in addition to our more traditional programs. Priests have had an incredibly positive reaction to this new model.

Make sure your Council is doing all it can to "AMP It Up" for the remainder of the Fraternal year.



SERVING THE COMMUNITY

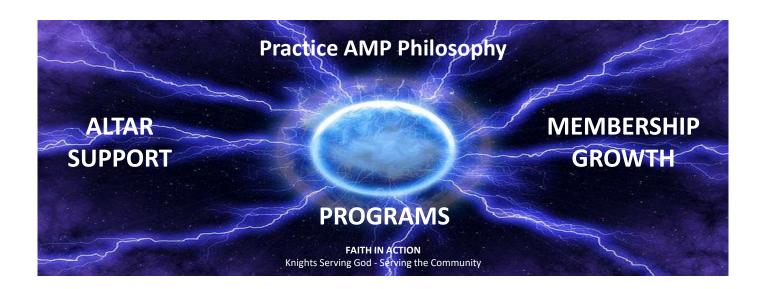


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State Warden - Kevin McCarthy

Brothers, we have a lot of work to do to meet our membership goals. You should have your next membership drive scheduled, or maybe even conducted it. If you haven't, it's not too late, so plan it now! If you can't hold a formal Church Drive, be creative! If you host Sunday Donuts and Coffee, recruit there! If you host a Lenten fish fry or Lenten Soup, there's an opportunity to recruit. Church Drives work! Yours can too. Remember to invite your District Deputy, Field Agent, State Officers and the membership team to your Church Drives. Growing the Order is our number one job, and we're all here to help! Remember, Always Be Recruiting!

Vivat Jesus! Kevin McCarthy State Warden State Membership Director







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State Executive Secretary - Rick Garrison - 2018-2019 STATE COUNCIL SERVICE PROGRAMS

2018 - 2019 COUNCIL AWARDS APPLICATIONS INSTRUCTION SHEET

GRAND KNIGHT / COUNCIL:

May submit award applications for:

- 1) Chaplain-of-the-year Form CLHP-YEAR 18-19
- 2) Family-of-the-year Supreme Form 10680 6/18
- 3) Knight-of-the-year Form KNGT-YEAR 18-19
- 4) Service Program (Faith) Awards Supreme Form STSP 11/18
- 5) Service Program (Family) Awards Supreme Form STSP 11/18
- 6) Service Program (Community) Awards Supreme Form STSP 11/18
- 7) Service Program (Life) Awards Supreme Form STSP 11/18

For the Service Program Awards: there are 4 categories: *Faith, Family, Community and Life.* The same application is used for all 4 categories. We will be using the same application as you will find on the Supreme website. Be sure to submit a separate original form *for each category* for which you apply.

For the *Family & Knight-of-the-Year:* Please select one Knight and Family you have submitted in the past Fraternal Year as Family and Knight-of-the-Year. Also, this year for *Family-of-the-Year* we will be using the application on the Supreme website (Form10680 6/18). *Before completing Family of Year please review Guide Sheet (Form 10607).* This application and the *Service Programs Applications* can be downloaded from the Supreme Website, or it can be found on the State Website along with all other award application at https://kofc-az.org/.

IMPORTANT NOTE

For the Service Program Awards, be sure all information is sections 1 & 2 is complete.

Once you have entered this information <u>DO NOT</u> use the council name, parish name, nominee's name, city or any wording that could identify the person, council or your location. If you do these references will be redacted (be blacked-out). This will make your document difficult to read and lessen its chances of being selected. We suggest that you write what you wish to say and then go back over your draft and remove any references in the write-up which could identify your nominee or council location. Liberally use the pronouns like he, him, his, them, they, or the parish, the church, or this family, they, them, or Father, the priest, etc.

Applications do not have to be typed, however please keep in mind that the applications do need to be neat, clear, concise, and readable. The best way of assuring this is if they are typed. It is a FILLABLE Form. If additional pages or attachments are provided, please make certain that they are identified as a continuation page for a particular award.





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State Executive Secretary – Rick Garrison - 2018-2019 STATE COUNCIL SERVICE PROGRAMS

Only one activity may be submitted per category. To qualify all Service Projects must have taken place during the 2018-2019 Fraternal Year.

MOST IMPORTANT! THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATIONS IS SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2019. Please plan wisely and submit your completed applications before the deadline. Application received after April 15, 2019 will not be considered.

Please complete/ edit submissions on your computer before submitting.

ALL Award Applications can be found on the State Website at: https://kofc-az.org/. Or the direct link is: https://kofc-az.org/state-forms%2Freports

The **preferred method** for submitting application documents is email. Send the documents to: **AZKnights@Q.com ONLY**

Or you may mail the complete applications to your State Awards Chairman.

Knights of Columbus State Awards Chairman

14175 W Indian School Rd

Suite B4-626

Goodyear AZ 85395-8369

Remember you cannot win if you do not apply. Each year so many great Chaplains, Brother Knights, Families and Council Activities which could easily win, go unrecognized because council fail to enter. Let's make this year different. Start early and be sure your council and its members are recognized.

Thank you everyone for all that you do for the good of the order and for your cooperation.

Vivat Jesus! Rick Garrison State Awards Chairman 480-522-7064 KofCRick@Q.com





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Arizona Rosary Celebration Chairman 2019 – Larry Costanzo

The 2019 AZ Rosary Celebration (ARC) is rapidly approaching when we will honor Mary under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe on the weekend of October 18 - 20, 2019.

Our Guest Speaker this year is Fr. Robert A. Gonzalez. Fr Gonzalez was born on March 12, 1952 in Pomona California, the first of 4 children to Guadalupe Gonzalez Ybarra and Jessie Soto Macias. Raised in a devout Catholic family in the Diocese of Tucson, early, as a boy he sensed the calling to be a priest. He attended Regina Cleri High School Seminary in Tucson; then the major seminary at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio.

After several assignments over the years, Fr. Gonzalez has returned to the Diocese of Tucson and is currently serving as parochial vicar at St. John the Evangelist parish in Tucson, Arizona; a dynamic parish well-known for its catechesis on the Virgin of Guadalupe; and well as its Guadalupe pastoral praxis. Father Gonzalez is concluding studies on the Nican Mopohua and on the image of the Virgin of Guadalupe.

We will soon be starting the monthly meetings of the Phoenix and Tucson Steering Committees. These Steering Committee meetings are important in that there is a voluminous amount of information exchanged to help keep each Chairperson aware of the progress toward ARC in October. The meetings in Phoenix will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 49th and Northern avenues. Meeting time is 7:00 P. M. Tucson Steering Committee meetings will also begin soon, and the dates will be published.

The monthly meetings of the Parish Representatives in Phoenix will begin in April and a schedule is elsewhere in the Newsletter.

As you know, ARC is expensive and is only funded by advertising in our Program Book and by donations. We have formed an advisory group to help us solicit and secure the necessary funds to support the effort. Joe Shanks, DD #13 will head that committee. To help us in that endeavor to fund ARC, we ask that every council and assembly have an item in their annual budget to purchase an ad in the Program Book. The ads range from \$50.00 for a quarter page to \$400.00 for full a page. In addition, it would be helpful to the Tucson and Phoenix Committees if each council and assembly would appoint a contact for ARC. Submit the names by email: azrosary@yahoo.com.

Our Co-chairs: Karen McEwen and Al Tucker in Tucson and Danny Haywood and Greg Mattingly in Phoenix, are currently working to firm chairperson assignments and provide guidance as to actions needed.

We are looking forward to another successful Rosary Celebration, but it will not happen without the support of every Knight of Columbus in the State of Arizona. Remember, Brothers, that this is an Arizona Knights of Columbus sponsored event and we need everyone's help.

More information will follow in future KOKOA Newsletters. Also, check our website: azrosary.net.

Pray for the success of Rosary Celebration.

Larry Costanzo

Chairman, AZ Rosary Celebration





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Silver Rose Chairman – Bob Julien

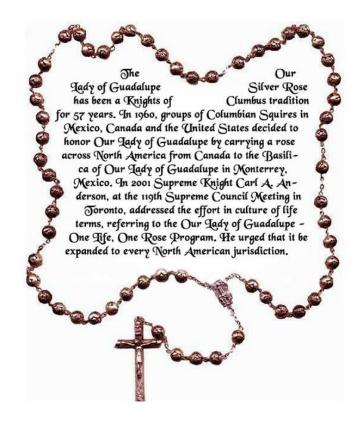


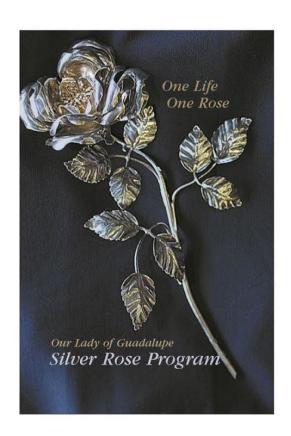
Brother Knights,

Each year, from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

This year Arizona will have the Silver Rose from October 1 – November 15 tentatively. A schedule for the Dioceses' of Arizona will be released soon. As in past year's the Silver Rose availability will be on a first come first serve basis. If there is particular date that you wish to receive the Silver Rose for your Parish, please email me at: rajuien@cox.net.











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State Program Director – Larry Powers

Brother Knights,

Brothers we are entering the last quarter of the fraternal year. Is your council on track to earn the Columbian Award? This month's we talk about the 4th required program for all councils: Helping Hands.

Through Helping Hands Councils are challenged to increase their outreach to those individuals that are at the edges of our community. This outreach can take many forms- perhaps your local homeless shelter could use some repairs; maybe your food bank needs some new shelving. One council is regularly helping sort donations at thrift shop that serves the homeless community, taking unusable, damaged items for disposal.

This program is a perfect opportunity to invite other members of the parish to join the Knights in helping others. Announce your Councils plans and ask for help from other parishioners. This is a natural recruitment opportunity while you are helping others.



As a reminder, Helping Hands does not satisfy the programming requirements for the Food for Families program. The two activities are separate and cannot be double-counted.

This program is intended to be broad reaching within your community and not specific to certain individuals. It should address the needs of whole groups. If you have any questions about the programs requirements please contact me. Additional information about Helping Hands can be found on the Supreme Website at: http://www.kofc.org/en/programs/community/helping-hands.html#/



Brothers as we approach Holy Saturday we are preparing to welcome new Brothers and Sisters into the church through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). Every Council should be welcoming these new Catholics when the join us in the Church. One way of doing this is through the Sacramental Gifts Program. This is not a complicated or cost prohibited program virtually any council can participate. All you are asked to do is to join our new parishioners as they enter the faith. Perhaps you can have your brother Knights join you at the Holy Saturday Mass as we share in the joy of these new member's faith journey. Gifts to recognize their journey can be simple; perhaps a Knights of Columbus Rosary, or maybe a copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The main gift is just being there to welcome them into the Church. Do not forget to invite those eligible to join your council. Additional information about the Sacramental Gifts Program can be found at: https://www.kofc.org/en/programs/faith/sacramental-gifts.html#/Action%20Steps

Vivat Jesus!

Larry Powers, State Program Director Programs@kofc-az.org





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Ultrasound Initiative Program Chairman – Joseph Kramer – FAITH IN ACTION

On February 16th, District #9 (Dominic Conn, DD) held a dinner dance at St. Andrew the Apostle parish for the intention of raising funds for the Ultrasound Initiative. The result was astonishing! Over \$12,000 raised. Nearly enough for a new machine in and of itself. But certainly, when combined with the funds already in the Ultrasound fund, we will be able to place another machine. State Program Director Larry Powers and I are working to find a pregnancy center in need. On behalf of all the unborn children that will be saved, I would like to thank the Knights of District #9 for their hard work and dedication toward the goal of protecting life, from conception to death.

I challenge all District Deputies to get their Councils involved in some kind of fund-raiser for the Ultrasound Initiative. Having been a District Deputy, I realize that (A) getting Councils involved is not always easy — many Councils already have their fill of projects and have budgeted for such — but you can suggest that they include the Ultrasound Initiative in the budget for the next Fraternal Year; and (2) not a lot of Districts are in areas where raising \$12,000 is not economically possible — this is why this is a State Council program — any amount is welcome and will be helpful in procuring an ultrasound machine.

For donations, please make checks payable to AZ Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc, write Ultrasound Initiative on the memo line, and mail to Joe Kramer, 7417 W Fawn Dr, Laveen, AZ, 85339.

Thank you in advance.

Next Two Months Challenges – April, 2019

April 2019

Things to Accomplish

- Council First Degree Week
- Council Church Drive
- Conduct a Charitable Service Program in honor of our founder Fr. Michael J. McGivney
- Complete judging in State Service Program Awards

Every man in RCIA should be asked to join and be brought into the largest lay Catholic organization in the world — The Knights of Columbus. Our programs invite all Catholics to join together and the true face of Christ's love to non-Catholics. Think about this, if a woman joins our faith, but her husband does not? Could this be the evangelizing force? Let's get out and ask those men to join, and provide them and their families with a multi-faceted Catholic support system for today's world.

May 2019

Things to Accomplish

- Arizona State Convention
- Election of Council Officers
- Prepare and submit the Columbian Award Application (#SP-7)





Planning the Month's Ahead

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Formation and Knighthood Degree Schedule — kofc-az.org exemplification schedule

Saturday, April 27, 2019, at San Francisco de Asis Parish, Flagstaff, AZ 86001 Council #1229

POC: DD Paul Holbrook #23 Email:paulh1339@msn.com

Sunday, May 5,2019, at KofC Hall, Chandler, AZ 85225

Council #3121

POC: Deacon Bruce Bennett, Email: bebennett2@cox.net

In most cases registration begins at 9:00am. To see a full schedule of exemplifications, check the website under State News - Exemplification Schedules. Information on the schedules will be updated as the information is received. More information available on State Calendar

as to times, etc.



Patriotic Degree Schedule (http://www.kofc-az.org) under Patriotic Degree or http://az4thdegree.org

The next 4th Degree Exemplification is as follows:

The next scheduled Exemplification of the Fourth Degree will be in Tucson AZ at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, 5150 N. Valley View Tucson, AZ 85718-6121, Phone 520-577-8780. The class honoree is Richard Tracy. A complete bio will be available at the exemplification.

POC: Bill Neer P.O. Box 31684, Tucson, AZ, 85751

Email: azjhrpexecsec@gmail.com

Phone: 520-307-1606



Special Events - 2019

112th Arizona Knights of Columbus Convention

May 17th & 18th, 2019

Sheraton Crescent Phoenix North Mountain, Phoenix, AZ

Delegate Forms are due to State Secretary NLT April 2, 2019.

Hotel reservations due NLT April 25, 2019.

All registrations and payments are due NLT May 3, 2019.

Check website at www.kofc-az.org for details and link to convention website.



KOCOA newsletter

Knights of Columbus Arizona 14175 W Indian School Road Suite B4-626 Goodyear, AZ 85395-8369

Our Lady of Czestochowa also known as the Black Madonna of Czestochowa is a revered icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The original image is housed at a monastery in <u>Jasna Gora, Poland</u>. The monastery has been a pilgrimage destination for hundreds of years. The Polish people have a great devotion to Our Lady and her Son. They continue to honor this miraculous image. The Feast of Our Lady of Czestochowa is celebrated on August 26th. Here is a beautiful Prayer to Our Lady of Czestochowa to be said each day upon rising.

Prayer to Our Lady of Czestochowa

"We fly to your patronage, O holy Mother of God;
do not reject our petitions in our necessities,
but deliver us always from all dangers,
O glorious and blessed Virgin.
Our Lady, our Patroness, our Mediatrix, our Joy!
Reconcile us to your Son, commend us to your Son, present us to your Son"