

## Knights of Columbus

Fourth Degree John H Reddin Province



THE PATRIOTIC DEGREE of The Knights of Columbus



## FOURTH DEGREE



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Office of District Master October 15, 2025

My Brother Knights,

Congratulations on receiving the honor of Knighthood in our Order.

As an active member of the Knights of Columbus, you and your family will discover new opportunities to serve our Church and community. These opportunities expand even further when you join the Patriotic Degree of the Knights of Columbus.

By joining the Patriotic Degree, you honor those who have fought to keep our country free. You will also learn about the achievements of those who shaped our nation and defended its freedom.

Fourth Degree Knights play a vital role in keeping God present in public life, supporting laws that recognize the sanctity of life, and defending true religious liberty. We are called to speak up for our faith and values, especially when too few Christians are willing to do so.

I invite you to join the Patriotic Degree. To begin your application, please find the attached Form 4. Choose a date to participate in one of the next two Exemplifications of the Patriotic Degree. Registration packets are available at <a href="https://kofc-az.org/patriotic-degree">https://kofc-az.org/patriotic-degree</a> for the events on December 13th at Saint Gabriel in Cave Creek or January 24th at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Tucson.

By attending an Exemplification, you will deepen your commitment to faith and patriotism alongside fellow Knights. These events are inspiring opportunities to connect with others, learn more about our mission, and take an important step in your journey. Register today to join us for this meaningful experience.

Earlier this year, we celebrated the 125th Anniversary of the First Exemplification of the Fourth Degree in New York City at St. Patrick's Cathedral, where 650 candidates became Sir Knights. Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly reminded us that patriotism is a duty flowing from gratitude—to God, to our families, and to our nation for the gifts that shape and sustain us: hearth and home, culture and community. He emphasized that the virtue of patriotism brings a special obligation to the Fourth Degree: to safeguard the good of our nation, strive for a better society, and pass on our love of country to future generations.

In closing, I extend heartfelt gratitude to all who worked tirelessly to make these Exemplifications a resounding success. The Exemplar Team delivers a powerful message of patriotism connected with Catholicism. Thank you to the Sir Knights and Ladies from Assemblies 2833 and 2308 for pouring their heart and soul into these events!

## God Bless America and God Bless the Knights of Columbus!

Faithfully yours,

Michael A. Paz

**AZ District Master** 

John H. Reddin Province