



**Knights of  
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Arizona  
State Council



# K O C O A

## ***Knights of Columbus of Arizona***

February Newsletter 2025-2026

Dear Brother Knights,

On behalf of the State Council, I extend our sincere wishes for a blessed and prayer-filled Lent. May this season draw us closer to Christ.

As we begin Lent *With Rejoicing Hearts*, the Knights of Columbus of Arizona welcome our new Bishops: Most Reverend James A. Misko, Bishop of Tucson, and Most Reverend Peter Dai Bui, Auxiliary Bishop of Phoenix. We offer our prayers and gratitude, asking Our Lord to guide and protect these shepherds. We affirm our loyalty and commitment as they embark on their ministries to the Catholic Faithful in the dioceses of Tucson and Phoenix.

### **2026 State Convention**

We welcome you to the 119th Annual Arizona Knights of Columbus State Convention occurring at the DoubleTree by Hilton Reid Park on May 1-2, 2026.

Some highlights:

- Registration is open on the State [WEBSITE HERE](#)
- Hotel Reservations can be [DONE HERE](#). We have secured a rate of \$149/night plus taxes. Rates are good through April 13.
- The delegate form was sent out in a previous note to Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries. We are hoping that your council will be represented at the convention!
- Advertise all the good works that your council has done in our program book! When you scroll down on the State Convention site, you will see the Program Book advertisement link there.

State Deputy



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## State Awards

Your councils are doing great work for your parish and community. It is time for you to nominate for the State, Supreme, District, and Council Awards. The deadline is April 1, 2026. Your Councils do so many wonderful things for which they should be recognized. The April 1 deadline is because the winners must be submitted to Supreme to qualify for the Supreme Awards and to have the plaques ready for the convention. We also need time to review all the submissions and pick winners. The Award Forms are **LOCATED HERE:**

Don't hesitate to register for the Convention! Come and share with your brother Knights across Arizona all the good works you have done "With Rejoicing Hearts"!

Vivat Jesus!

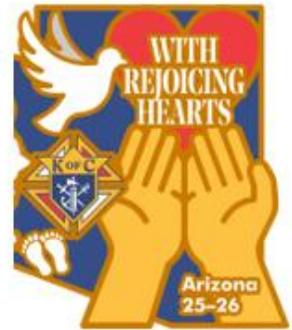
State Deputy

### Kevin McCarthy

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Regional Growth Director

Brothers and Leaders,

### **New Year – New plan**

With the holidays behind us we can now look forward to the new year in the Order. This is a time to look at the end of 2025, evaluate our progress, recognize our successes and as importantly, acknowledge those areas where we fell short or even failed completely.

At the half-year point, failure can be a new beginning, if we choose to take it but only if we are willing to look in, analyze and honestly evaluate the reasons and even the excuses of how we missed the opportunities that were presented to us and make concrete plans to change what we are doing.

I encourage Councils, Districts and even States to take a look at the 2025 portion of Fraternal Year 2025-2026 and answer the following questions:

- What worked, and how do we keep it going?
- What didn't work, and can we fix it or do we need to go in a different direction?
- What didn't we get to, and what is the concrete schedule to complete it?
- What can we do differently, and when will we do it?

Simple questions but such a profound impact in our lives, in our families, in our Councils, Parishes and communities and yes, in the whole world.

I look forward to seeing your successes and helping whenever and wherever I can.

Vivat Jesus,

Chuck Davlin

Regional Growth Director





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Serving Our Catholic Communities Since 1882



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State Warden / Membership Director

Brothers, All,

As we enter the season of Lent, we as Knights of Columbus have tremendous opportunities to offer the gift of membership to the men of our parishes. Let's keep our strong momentum rolling by utilizing these tools to help your councils reach your membership goals:

### **OCIA to OCIAM (Of Course I'm A Knight)**

1. Meet With Your Parish's OCIA Coordinator And Request Time To Speak To All Candidates At An Upcoming Class.
2. Bring Food! (Pizza Is Always Easy)
3. Have 2-3 Of Your Council's Best Recruiters Talk About The Knights And SPECIFICALLY The Activities Of Your Council
4. Focus On Faith Activities and COR
5. Hand Out Brochure Packets
6. Encourage Men To Fill Out Membership Cards That Day And Collect Them Before You Leave
7. Encourage Ladies To Bring The Information To Their Spouse Or Another Catholic Man In Their Life
8. Announce The Date Of The C-U-F To Be Held A Week Or Two After Easter
9. Email All Men That Filled Out Cards, Congratulating Them On Joining The Church And The Knights! Remind Them Of The C-U-F Ceremony Date And Time
10. Send A Follow Up Email The Week Before Easter, Telling Them To Watch For An Email From Supreme To Confirm Their Membership
11. Enter All Men Into The On-Line Join System On Easter Sunday Or Monday At The Latest
12. Follow Up By Phone With Any Men That Do Not Confirm By Wednesday



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**OCIAK-Items For Hand Outs**

**Membership Enrollment Form #11881**

**Cor #11541**

**24 Hours Can Change Your Life #10099**

**Point The World To Jesus Christ #11586**

**Insurance Benefits Card #11730**

**Your Own Council Brochure/Tri-Fold**

**All Brochures Also Available In Spanish**

**Please email me with your success stories so I can share them in upcoming newsletters!**

**Recruitment Training Corner**

With the launch of the redesigned K of C website ([www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)), for the next few months, I will be including links to short training videos to help councils improve their membership recruiting. Please click on the link below for the first video:

[Online Join Video - Membership - Fraternal Mini Videos Video Training Gallery](#)

On behalf of the entire State Membership Team, thank you for your amazing efforts to invite every eligible Catholic man to join the Order. Keep up the great work!!!

Vivat Jesus! ¡Viva Cristo Rey!

**Dan Kudulis**  
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State Program Director

Hello Brother Knights,

It was great to see so many of you at the Midyear Meeting held last month in Tucson. I look forward to connecting at your upcoming District Meetings.

**CONGRATULATIONS – January Program Incentive Winner**

**Council 1229, Fr. Douglas J. Nohava**, Flagstaff, is the winner of a \$200 RSVP Donation for their outstanding work with our Life programs. During January, they held a Novena for Life, and a Holy Hour for Life. They, along with thirty-four other councils, submitted Life 10784s. A total of **378** forms were submitted in January. (131 Faith, 104 Community, 108 Family, and 35 Life)

Thank you all who attended the Tucson March for Life. The Mass was well attended and many councils participated in the walk to Holy Hope Cemetery.

**February Featured Program** – Pilgrim Icon, Rosary, Novena, and any of the new programs. The incentive is a Sacramental Gifts Donation.

There were nine councils that participated in the AZ State KCIC poster contest this year, an increase from last year. The winners are:

Kindergarten	Levon Nissen	Council 12078
Grades 1-2	Leandro Jaramillo	Council 10799
Grades 3-4	Lynda Teague	Council 16277
Grades 5-6	Ellie Skvarce	Council 16277
Grades 7-8	Sofia Vega	Council 10799

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

**Basketball Free Throw**

Districts should be having their championships this month in preparations for the State Championship next month.



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The State Free Throw Championship is Saturday, March 28, 2026, at Notre Dame Preparatory High School, 9701 E Bell Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85260. Doors will open at 11am for registration. The event will start at noon.

Upon completion of District Free Throw Competitions in February, or completion of Council Competitions that won't have a District Competition, please forward all score sheets to Rick Garrison, Executive Secretary to State Deputy at [kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com](mailto:kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com) or snail mail at:

**2400 N Bullard Avenue  
Apt 1162  
Goodyear, AZ  
875395**

**CONGRATULATIONS** – December 2025 Family of the Month Winner

The Ronald Rilley Family, Fray Francisco Garces, Glendale, Council #3855.

10784 - [Form Invitation](#)

***With Rejoicing Hearts***, let us continue to put our Faith in Action and grow our order.

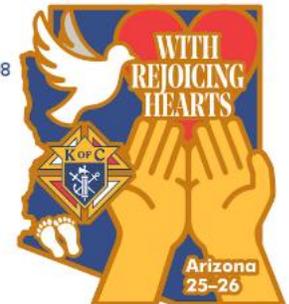
Vivat Jesus!

**Benjamin Jimenez**

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Brothers All,

Let us be reminded of the mission and vision of Cor as a reminder of what Fr. McGivney saw the Knights to be.

**Cor Mission:**

To help focus men on Jesus by building Christ-centered brotherhood through a flexible framework of prayer, formation and fraternity.

**Cor Vision:**

To aid in transforming the hearts of men through Christ-centered brotherhood. Rooted in prayer, formation and fraternity, men will be sharpened in faith and virtue as they cultivate authentic friendships with Christ and each other.

We envision a future where *Cor* continuously helps sustain these men to lead their families, strengthen their parish communities and courageously evangelize the world as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ.

*Cor* is designed to be flexible. It is important to offer all 3 elements during each *Cor* gathering but how that is done, in what order and for what duration, is up to what is best for your group.

[Here](#) is a video that you can use to remind us of what *Cor* is. This video can be shared with your pastors, especially those that are hesitant to have *Cor* at their parish.

For those of you that are the EFF director for your council, you are not meant to lead alone or to carry every responsibility on your own. If you haven't already, prayerfully consider which men in your parish – including those who aren't Knights – might be a good fit to help lead and grow *Cor*.



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Assemble a team around roles that best fit your needs and your men's unique skills and talents. Possible roles include:

- Communication/Outreach Coordinator
- Hospitality Coordinator
- Fraternity/Engagement Leader
- Formation Leader
- Prayer Leader
- Spiritual Advisor/Chaplain

Check out this short video on [Building a Team](#).

Fr. Arthur and I are grateful for your continued witness of faith, charity, and fraternity throughout our parishes in Arizona. Your commitment to serving the Church and strengthening Catholic men is a powerful gift to our diocesan communities.

COR provides a vital space for men to encounter Christ more deeply, grow in brotherhood, and be formed as leaders in their families, parishes, and communities. This mission aligns beautifully with the evangelizing work of the Knights of Columbus and our shared call to form intentional disciples.

As we continue to respond to the Church's call for renewed evangelization, initiatives like COR help foster authentic relationships rooted in prayer, Scripture, and Catholic teaching. We encourage your continued collaboration and leadership in supporting COR as a means of strengthening parish life and helping men live out their faith with conviction and purpose.

Thank you for your faithful service to the Church and for all that you do to build up the Kingdom of God in Arizona.

Dcn. Bruce Bennett, EdD

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Fr. Arthur Nave, Jr.

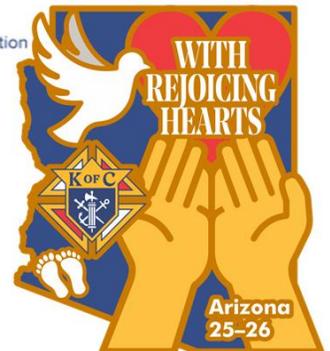
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## 2025-2026 State Leadership Team

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Immediate Past State Deputy	<b>Tom Kato</b> 480-907-4581 tom.kato.azkofc@gmail.com	Director Evangelization and Faith Formation	<b>Dcn. Bruce Bennett</b> 480-294-0282 dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com
State Membership Director	<b>Dan Kudulis</b> 602-647-3551 membership@kofc-az.org	Evangelization and Faith Formation Clergy Liaison	<b>Father Arthur Nave</b>  frnaveaz@gmail.com
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State Executive Secretary	<b>Ken Gallagher</b> 520-661-1262 ses@kofc-az.org	District Master	<b>Michael Paz</b> 602-790-1789 sirknightmichaelpaz@gmail.com
		Executive Secretary to the State Deputy	<b>Rick Garrison</b> 480-522-7064 kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com

Send a copy of all forms to [kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com](mailto:kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com)  
DD's - Send expense reports to State Deputy



## With Rejoicing Hearts – The Design

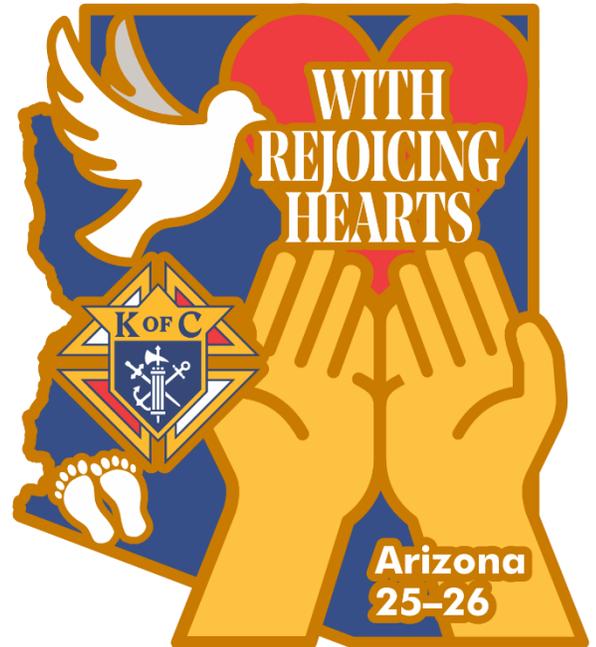
The Arizona Knights of Columbus State Pin has a copper background reminding us of the rich natural resources of our State.

The imagery on the pin

- Raised hands in rejoicing
- Our hearts
- The Knights of Columbus emblem
- The dove representing the Holy Spirit
- Baby footprints symbolizing the Right to Life

serves as a visual testament to our mission.

It reminds us that we are called to serve, uplift, and walk in faith, defending the dignity of life from conception to natural death and bringing Christ’s kingdom to light. **We serve With Rejoicing Hearts!**



## The Complete Knight Flywheel

From a mechanical side, the flywheel is a very heavy wheel that is used to generate and transfer energy to other parts of a machine. Once it starts spinning, it's hard to stop.

**God is the center of** all that he does, his **family** comes second, and self, third.

A successful knight does each of the activities to keep that flywheel going: Recruitment, Engagement, Motivation, Evangelization, and Retention. The areas of focus for each of those activities are around Membership, Programs, Cor, and Insurance.

