



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



K O C O A

Knights of Columbus of Arizona

July Newsletter 2026-2027

Dear Brother Knights,

Happy new year!

Congratulations on the absolutely amazing fraternal year just completed. We are still finalizing the numbers, but we clearly broke records across the board in growth, service, and faith and have never invited as many men into our Order with over 1400 new Brother Knights joining our ranks. Let's keep the momentum going and make this new Fraternal year even better! Thank You!

2026-2027 State Theme

Each year, the State Deputy has the privilege of choosing a state theme and pin.

Today, we unveil a symbol that speaks to the heart of who we are as Arizona Knights of Columbus. Our state theme and pin for the fraternal year 26–27 carry a message that is both simple and profound - ***United in Love***.



The pin reflects the theme. At the center of this design, you see a heart formed by two joined hands. This is not sentiment; it is the very essence of our first principle, Charity. Charity is love in action - the love we have for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and the deep, sacrificial love Christ has for us. *For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. (John 3:16)* Every act of charity we perform is a reflection of that divine love.

Beneath the heart, you will notice tiny footprints. They are small, but their meaning is immense. These footprints proclaim our Order's unflinching commitment to the right to life - to every child, born and unborn, whose dignity we defend. They remind us that love must always protect, always cherish, always stand for life.

State Deputy



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



State Deputy

But this year's theme calls us to something more - to the second great principle of our Order: Unity. Reflected in the joined hands that make up the heart, Unity is the strength of many hearts beating as one. It is councils working together, families serving together, parishes growing together. It is the conviction that we accomplish far more united than we ever could alone. The outline of Arizona and the shared colors of our state remind us that every district, every council, every brother belongs to one mission. When we stand united, our love becomes a force capable of transforming communities.

To the left stands the saguaro cactus, tall and steadfast, an emblem of Fraternity. Like the ranks of saguaros which stand tall on the hills and mountainsides of Arizona, our brotherhood endures the desert winds and the heat of trial. We stand together, supporting one another, strengthening one another, never letting a brother walk alone.

The Arizona rays and colors reminiscent of our state flag behind the design speak to Patriotism - not merely pride in our state, but a commitment to serve her people with integrity, compassion, and faithful citizenship. To love Arizona is to serve Arizona.

And anchoring the entire image is the Knights of Columbus emblem, reminding us of the mission entrusted to us: to be men of faith, men of service, men united in charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism.

Our pin is more than enamel and metal. It is a promise. A call. A witness.

It tells Arizona that her Knights stand United in Love - the love of Christ, the love in brotherhood, the love that defends life, the love that serves without counting the cost, and the love that unites us as one.

My brothers, as you wear your pin throughout the fraternal year, let it remind you of who we are and what we are called to be: A light in the desert. A people united in love.



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



State Deputy

HELP WANTED!

Brothers, as we welcome Ken Gallagher in his new role as State Membership Director, a key role on the State Council team has opened. We are looking for a brother Knight to step up to serve as **State Executive Secretary**. This role has several key responsibilities, including assisting the State Secretary and Treasurer in distributing Per Capita statements, recording the minutes of state meetings, collecting the annual reports of officers, chairmen and DDs and preparing the Proceedings for the Annual Convention. The State Deputy may request assistance with other similar activities throughout the year as needed. Ken will be happy to help you get started. Skill on the PC is important for this role. The State Executive Secretary attends the Organizational and Midyear Meetings and the State Convention, and all expenses are paid by the State Council. If you are interested, please contact me.

Organizational Meeting

I look forward to seeing many of you at the State Organizational Meeting at St. John Vianney in Goodyear. See the reminder sent to all just before the publishing of this newsletter.

Brothers, as we start a new fraternal year, we will lead boldly - not with pride, but with purpose; not with position, but with prayer. The example of Blessed Michael McGivney, the blessing of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the love and support of our spouses and families and the spirit of our brotherhood will guide our every step, and with hearts filled by the Holy Spirit, we will carry the Knights of Columbus forward in Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism as we serve "United in Love"!

Vivat Jesus!

Kevin McCarthy

State Deputy
12090 N. Thornydale Rd. #110-498
Marana, AZ 85658
602-684-8125
kmccarthy.kofc@gmail.com
www.kofc-az.org
www.kofc.org/join



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council





**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



State Chaplain

Brothers,

As our Worthy State Officers have shared, I am delighted to invite you all to my parish for the annual “Org Meeting” on July 24-25. This year St. John Vianney in Goodyear is celebrating 70 years as a parish and our Pope Pius XII Council 4737 is 67 years old... And yet it’s our first Org Meeting to host, so we are particularly excited to host you all!

If you have not been to an Org Meeting before you’re in for a good time at this one. As you’ll see on the Agenda, there is a lot of time dedicated to learning and clarifying our goals for the coming year. For DD’s and GK’s it’s a tremendous boost to confidence. As important, you’ll share fraternity with Knights from around Arizona, including your State Officers. Our time together during liturgies and prayer, breaks and meals, happy hours and discussions around the tables - they’re all opportunities to build our brotherhood.

Plus, Buc-ees is only a few blocks away!

In 2020 and 2021 we all got really sick of Zoom & Teams calls. We probably still are. Given how big our state is and the price of gas, these are still helpful tools for the regular state-wide business. But there’s no substitute for our in-person Knights of Columbus gatherings. In each of our districts we may gather regularly, and even within our Dioceses. Only a few times of year, though, are we able to gather all together in Arizona as Knights.

And we have Buc-ees!

Please join us, and I’ll see you in Goodyear. If you have any questions don’t hesitate to reach out: dhalm@sjvaz.net

VIVAT JESUS!

Fr. David Halm, C.S.C.





**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



Regional Growth Director

My Brothers in Arizona,

CONGRATULATIONS!! You have had a GREAT year in Programs, Faith Formation, Protecting our families and in adding more men and their families to our rolls!!

The momentum you have started this year is terrific, but we have to keep it going. If you have ever had to push a car, you know that, once it is moving, it is fairly easy to keep it moving BUT if you let in coast to a stop, it is hard all over again to get it moving again. We MUST keep our momentum going as we head into the summer months!

Keep feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, consoling the sick and the imprisoned, clothing the naked, burying the dead AND keep inviting men and their families to join us in our efforts, our activities and our Order.

I will miss you at the District Deputy Organizational Meeting as I have been assigned to another Jurisdiction.

Know that you will be in my thoughts and prayers as you meet to plan the next year and I am looking forward to working with you in the year to come.

Fraternally,

Vivat Jesus,
Chuck Davlin

Regional Growth Director

| | |
|--|---|
|  |  Knights of Columbus® |
| | Chuck Davlin <i>Supreme Regional Growth Director</i> Phone: 203-500-1302 Chuck.Davlin@kofc.org |
| Supreme Council https://kofc.org | |
| Serving Our Catholic Communities Since 1882 | |



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



State Membership Director

Brothers,

I wanted to introduce myself. I am Ken Gallagher and I have the privilege and honor to be appointed by our State Deputy, Kevin McCarthy as your new State Membership Director for the 2026-2027 fraternal year. I am replacing our Worthy State Warden and Membership Director, Dan Kudlis.

I want to give a big shout out to Dan for the outstanding job that he has done in helping the State achieve its membership goals this last fraternal year. Through Dan's leadership, dedication and hard work, our State earned not only the Circle of Honor for membership, but the highest award for membership from Supreme, the Pinnacle Award. This was no easy task for Dan as he also served as our State Warden. I hope to continue the work Dan has done for the last two years as Membership Director and to be as successful as he was. Let's keep the momentum we have built up and make this another great year!

I will continue to work with last year's Membership Team that assisted Dan to help your councils with membership drives and recruiting. If anyone is interested in helping me and the team this year, please contact me as I would greatly appreciate and welcome all the help I can get.

I encourage every council and the Council Membership chairmen to start their recruiting efforts early. To quote our SD Kevin, "early is easy". Start to work with your pastors and schedule your membership drives for the year now. Be sure to enter your membership drives on the State Website. You can use the following link to take you directly to the State calendar.

<https://kofc-az.org/events-calendar>

By entering your membership drives in the calendar, this will give the membership team visibility on the upcoming drives throughout the state so we can plan ahead to attend your drives and assist in an way that we can.

I will have more information to provide to you regarding any changes and reward/incentive programs for recruiting at the State Organizational meeting later this month.



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



Feel free to reach out to me with any membership questions or assistance that you may need. I look forward to taking on this challenging role and assisting all of you reach your council goals. Let's make this new 2026-2027 year even better than past years and continue to grow the Order in Arizona!

Vivat Jesus! ¡Viva Cristo Rey!

Ken Gallagher

Ken Gallagher

State Membership Director
12090 N. Thornydale Rd. #110-498
Marana, AZ 85658
520-661-1262
membership@kofc-az.org
www.kofc-az.org
www.kofc.org/join



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



State Membership Director



Knights of Columbus®
Arizona
State Council



State Warden

Worthies and Brothers All,

Getting back to Basics

Over the past 2 years, I have had the privilege of attending many council functions around the state. It has been great meeting so many Brothers, and your hospitality has been truly appreciated.

Being able to visit so many councils and observe how Council Meetings and Ceremonies are conducted, one thing that sticks out is our lack of uniformity from one council to the next. This is not limited to a particular Diocese, Region, or District, but across the entire state in general. Some councils are following protocols very well, while others have become lax. I believe that, to a certain extent, this was caused by Covid, and how we needed to adjust our way of doing things (virtual meetings, etc.) to keep our councils up and running. Unfortunately, after Covid subsided, some of the habits we developed during that time have remained, with many councils not returning to our prescribed way of doing things.

At our upcoming Organizational Meetings at the end of July, we will be providing our District Deputies a refresher on hosting Meetings and Ceremonials properly, which they will be covering with the Council Officers during your District Meetings. In the meantime, you can review the Protocol, Meetings, and Ceremonials Booklet #11620 ([also available to download from the K of C website](#)).

Our goal is to have all our councils provide our members and guests the best meetings and ceremonials of any jurisdiction in the Order!

Wishing you all a great 2026-2027 Fraternal Year!!

Keep up the great work!!!

Vivat Jesus! ¡Viva Cristo Rey!

Dan Kudulis

State Warden
12090 N Thornydale Rd. #110-498
Marana, AZ 85658
602-647-3551
dansiluduk@cox.net
www.kofc-az.org
www.kofc.org/join



Knights of Columbus®
Arizona
State Council





**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



State Program Director

Hello Brother Knights,

As reported at the State Convention, form 10784 has become the norm for reporting program activity. Please continue to send them in. They are important to track your progress and assist you when it's time to complete your SP-7's.

Thank you to those who contacted me for support in sending me your SP-7's. It was a pleasure helping you with your resubmissions. I was especially impressed with all the hard work your councils put into this last year.

10784 - [Form Invitation](#)

I will reveal the new incentives for next year at the organizational meeting at the end of July. My plan will be to open all the programs up for incentives. The focus will be on the 8 new programs revealed last year. Any new program will put your council into the drawing for the incentive. Just last week was the first submission for Quinceañera Support. I will also discuss the new Columbian Award form (SP-7) at the meeting. The requirements have changed that I know you will be pleased with.

Reminder: Coats for Kids

As we prepare for the 2026-27 fraternal year, we are implementing an initial cap on the number of Buy One Get One (BOGO) cases each state may receive. This adjustment will help us manage inventory more effectively and ensure equitable distribution across all jurisdictions. The number of cases was emailed to the state program directors, state coats for kids' chairmen, state community directors, and state deputies in all participating jurisdictions.

Each jurisdiction must submit its BOGO proposal to the Supreme Office (jason.porello@kofc.org) by September 1 to claim its cases. Proposals received after this date may not be eligible to participate in the BOGO incentive. Unclaimed BOGO cases will be advertised for other jurisdictions to claim after that date. All BOGO resources are found in the [Coats for Kids section at KofC.org](#). A sample Coats for Kids proposal can also be found on the website.



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



State Program Director

Reminder: Contact School Principals

Brothers, remember to start contacting your parish school principals now to discuss the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest, Soccer Challenge and Free Throw Championship Contest. Get on the books now to have those programs with your schools. Discuss any Bright Future plans you have with the school, i.e., beautification projects before the start of the fall term in August and scholarship assistance.

CONGRATULATIONS – June Program Incentive Winner

Council 3855, Fray Francisco Garces, Glendale, is the winner of a \$200 RSVP donation. They, along with five other councils, submitted 10784s for the Celebrating Our Catholic Heritage/May Crowning and Adoration incentive. Council 3855 participated and partnered with the St. Louis the King Women’s Club in a May Crowning and Rosary Program. A total of 268 10784’s were received in May; Faith 88, Family 62, Community 84 and 34 for Life.

The **June** featured program is Family of the Month, Pilgrim Icon, and Eucharistic Procession. The incentive winner will receive a \$100 St. Joseph’s Youth Camp donation.

CONGRATULATIONS – June 2026 Family of the Month Winner

The Raul Chavez Family, Fray Francisco Garces, Glendale, Council #3855.

Vivat Jesus!
¡Viva Cristo Rey!

Benjamin Jimenez
State Program Director
12090 N. Thornydale Rd. #110-498
Marana, AZ 85658
520-904-0524
programs@kofc-az.org
www.kofc-az.org
www.kofc.org/join



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council





**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



Cor: Strengthening Men in Faith and Brotherhood

“Cor is meant to transform us, by drawing us closer to Christ and each other.”

– Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly

The mission of Cor is simple yet profound: to draw Catholic men into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through authentic fraternity, meaningful formation, and prayer. As Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly reminds us, *“Cor is meant to transform us, by drawing us closer to Christ and each other.”*

Every Cor gathering is built upon three essential elements:

- **Prayer**
- **Formation**
- **Fraternity**

These three pillars provide men with an opportunity to grow spiritually, strengthen their Catholic faith, and build lasting brotherhood with one another. Whether your council is just beginning a Cor initiative or has already established regular meetings, remember that the goal is not simply to host another event—it is to foster discipleship and help men encounter Christ.

We are blessed to have a **Diocesan EFF Coordinator serving the Phoenix area**, providing leadership and support to councils implementing Cor. As the program continues to grow, we would also like to establish **Diocesan EFF Coordinators for the Tucson and Gallup dioceses**. If you know a brother Knight with a passion for evangelization and men's faith formation who may be interested in serving in this important role, please reach out to Dcn. Bruce.

Cor satisfies 3 programs/activities.

Did you all catch that! Cor satisfies 3 programs/activities. This is great news! Here is information from the new Columbian Award Requirements sheet:



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



Requirement 3 – Complete 3 programs / activities: one to bring men closer to Christ, one to build fraternity (strengthen the bonds of friendship between the men of your council and/or parish) and one to support your parish or community. These programs / activities can be unique to the council and do not need to be Faith in Action programs. You cannot claim programs / activities already submitted for requirements 2 and 3.

- Conducting Cor satisfies all three of the program/activity criteria for requirement 3. Councils must implement and sustain Cor gatherings that feature prayer, formation, and fraternity at least once per month. To qualify, Cor must be implemented starting on or before April 1 with plans for long-term sustainability.
- Cor may be held in conjunction with an additional men’s ministry and pull from non-KofC content.
- For additional information on Cor and its structure, visit kofc.org/corleaders, view the Cor Startup Videos and Cor Leader Guide, and contact your State EFF Director.

If you choose this option, you must include the name and email address of your council Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF) Director.

Let me know what your council is doing for Cor and please report using the form at <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7915911/Cor-Quarterly-Survey-FY-24-25> . With the beginning of our fraternal year, Grand Knights, please submit your EFF Director using the submission form at <https://info.kofc.org/EFF-Onboarding-LP.html> .

Cor is more than a meeting—it is an invitation for Catholic men to pray together, learn together, and grow together in Christ. We encourage every council to embrace this mission and continue building vibrant communities of faith through Cor.

Dcn. Bruce Bennett

State Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation

dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



Evangelization and Faith Formation/ Cor

Fr. Arthur Nave, Jr.
Cor Clergy Liaison
frnaveaz@gmail.com

Sam Chamoun
Diocesan EFF Coordinator (PHX)
schamoun@yahoo.com

Dcn. Bruce Bennett, EdD
Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation
12090 N. Thornydale Rd. #110-498
Marana, AZ 85658
480-294-0282
dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com
www.kofc-az.org
www.kofc.org/join



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council





**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



Knights of Columbus

John H. Reddin Province Arizona

Worthy Sir Knights,

It is with great humility and gratitude that I begin my service as your newly appointed District Master for Arizona. I sincerely thank Supreme Master Michael McCusker for the confidence he has placed in me through this appointment. I am honored to serve the Sir Knights of Arizona and build upon the strong foundation established by those who came before me.

I would be remiss if I did not thank Worthy Former District Master Sir Knight Mike Paz for his faithful leadership and service to Arizona. His commitment to growing the Fourth Degree, strengthening our Honor Guard program, and preparing our District for future success has left a lasting impact. I appreciate his leadership and look forward to working with him during a smooth transition.

As we move forward, we have two Patriotic Degree Organizational Meetings scheduled: July 18, 2026, in Tucson and August 29, 2026, in Phoenix. Please visit our state website to register and join us as we discuss the future of the Fourth Degree in Arizona.

Please also mark your calendars for our first Exemplification on September 12, 2026, at the beautiful San Marcos Resort in Chandler, Arizona. I am pleased to announce that our Class Honoree will be Bishop James Wall of the Diocese of Gallup. This will mark the first time in Arizona Fourth Degree history that a Bishop has participated in an Exemplification, making this a truly special and historic occasion for our District.

Looking ahead, my goals are to grow the Order alongside State Deputy Kevin McCarthy, attend as many Charity, Unity, and Fraternity Degrees as possible, improve communication through a monthly District newsletter and Facebook

Arizona District Master



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



presence, and continue strengthening and growing the Fourth Degree throughout Arizona.

We have exciting opportunities ahead. Through our shared principles of Patriotism, Fraternity, and Faith, we will continue to strengthen our Order and proudly serve our Church, our communities, and our nation.

I humbly ask for your prayers, support, and continued commitment as we begin this journey together.

Vivat Jesus! Luigi Baratta

District Master Arizona

Arizona District Master



Knights of
Columbus®
Arizona
State Council



— ★ —
SAVE
— THE —
DATE
— ★ —



**ARIZONA DISTRICT
PATRIOTIC DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION**
★

TO BE HELD ON
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026,
AT THE CROWNE PLAZA RESORT
IN CHANDLER, ARIZONA.
★

We would be honored to have you join us
for this special event.
★

Our **Class Honoree** will be **Bishop James Wall** of the
Diocese of Gallup, making this the first time
Arizona has had a Bishop attend the
new Patriotic Degree Exemplification.
★



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



Arizona State Knights of Columbus
12090 N. Thornydale Rd. #110-498 Marana, AZ 85658

2026-2027 State Leadership Team

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--|
| State Deputy | Kevin McCarthy 602-684-8125 kmccarthy.kofc@gmail.com | State Chaplain | Fr. David Halm, C.S.C. dhalm@sjvaz.net |
| State Secretary | Larry Powers 702-827-8135 larry.powers.azkofc@gmail.com | State Treasurer | Bobby Nielsen 520-349-0728 bnielsen200@gmail.com |
| State Advocate | Rich Tracy 520-904-3175 rich.tracyazkofc@icloud.com | State Warden | Dan Kudulis 602-647-3551 dansiluduk@cox.net |
| Immediate Past State Deputy | Tom Kato 480-907-4581 tom.kato.azkofc@gmail.com | Director Evangelization and Faith Formation | Dcn. Bruce Bennett 480-294-0282 dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com |
| State Membership Director | Ken Gallagher 520-661-1262 membership@kofc-az.org | Evangelization and Faith Formation Clergy Liaison | Father Arthur Nave frnaveaz@gmail.com |
| General Agent | Nate Raso 801-867-0491 nate.raso@kofc.org | State Program Director | Ben Jimenez 520-904-4542 programs@kofc-az.org |
| State Executive Secretary | Help Wanted! Contact the State Deputy | District Master | Luigi Baratta 602-326-8511 so.baratta@yahoo.com |
| | | Executive Secretary to the State Deputy | Rick Garrison 480-522-7064 kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com |

Send a copy of all forms to kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com
DD's - Send expense reports to the State Deputy



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Arizona
State Council



United in Love — Arizona State Pin 26–27

- Shaped in the outline of our desert home, this pin carries the heart of our mission.
- A heart formed by joined hands reflects Charity—the love of Christ alive in us, and the love we share through every act of service.
- Beneath it, tiny footprints proclaim our unwavering commitment to the right to life, honoring every child whose dignity we defend.
- The steadfast saguaro stands for Fraternity, reminding us that brotherhood shelters, strengthens, and endures.
- Arizona’s rays and copper tones speak to Patriotism, a love for our state expressed through faithful citizenship and service.



Together, these symbols call us to walk as one—**United in Love**, a light in the desert.

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: He Invites men into the Order and then Engages, Motivates, Evangelizes and Retains. The areas of focus for each of those activities are around Membership, Programs, EFF/Cor, and Fraternal Benefits.

