



Organizational Meeting
Sunday, July 1, 2018 – 11:00 A.M.
Hotel Acacia/Palo Verde Rooms
STATE DEPUTY'S FINAL CLOSING REMARKS



Reverend Father, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Past State Deputies, Worthy Vice-Supreme Master, Worthy District Master, Worthy District Deputies, Brother Knights, and Ladies. Today, marks the first day of the 2018-2019 Fraternal Year. Today it begins. Are you ready? (AUDIENCE SHOUTS YES!) Will we succeed? (AUDIENCE SHOUTS YES). Amen! Thank you for saying YES to your brother Knights in Arizona. They said YES to be a Knight of Columbus. Today, you will lead them in charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. Starting today, we put Faith in Action and lead our men into the Breach. When you leave here today, you will go forth to take your councils to the pinnacle of success. Remember, I and my fellow State Officers will not be far behind you and are willing to assist when need is great. Failure is not an option. You will succeed.

I have said this several times this weekend and I say it again, “The Knights of Columbus cannot be the strong right arm of the Catholic Church if the local Council is not the Pastor’s strong right arm. District Deputies must stand by their Councils and add their strength to the Council’s so that they can achieve their goals.”

You have learned this weekend that this year we will implement new programs and activities under the banner of **Faith in Action**. Through this program model, we will build up our **Faith** and those of the Council, Family, Parish, and Community. We will protect the **Family**, extend charity to the **Community**, and most importantly, defend the sanctity of **Life**. Our successes this year will be accomplished as we work to “Build up the Domestic Church” at the parish level. We will work with our Councils and through e-Membership and traditional tools grow our ranks. We will help the parishes grow. We will encourage and support vocations. We will protect marriage and the family. We will protect life at all stages.

Beginning today, we have much to do to meet our goals of adding 1,000 New Members, 50 Star Councils, 10 Star Districts, 3 All Star Districts, 11 New Councils, and 30 Round Tables. We are going to do this to ensure that the Knights of Columbus in Arizona continues to grow.

As leaders for the Knights of Columbus in Arizona, we will plan together for a future when the unborn are safe from the hands of abortionists. We look for a future when the elderly and infirm will live to enter their heavenly reward, on God’s terms, not man’s. We

envision a future when aborted babies will not have their Stem Cells harvested and used in genetic experimentation. The future we will work toward will ensure that the sacredness of marriage and the definition of family are secure from corruption. In the future we plan for; God, our faith, and our core beliefs will be protected from secular attack. We will plan and work together to see a future when our Christian brothers and sisters in the Middle East are safe from persecution. This year, today, we begin the work necessary to right these terrible wrongs.

Ladies and gentlemen, when the parish priest needs help, he will turn to the Knights of Columbus. When the seminarian or religious seeks assistance, they will turn to the Knights of Columbus. When our own Bishop asks for Catholic men to go “Into the Breach,” the Knights of Columbus will lead the charge. It is the Knights of Columbus who will save the unborn from abortion, protect the Sacrament of Marriage, defend the family, and stand firmly before those who seek to defile our religion and beliefs. The Knights of Columbus will always be there to support seminarians, priests, deacons, religious, bishops, and Pope.

It is an honor to work with you this fraternal year in charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. I know that my expectations for you are high, but in my estimation, you are capable of achieving your goals, and much more.

Many thanks to our host council, Our Lady of Czestochowa, for their hospitality, good food, and the fraternity you extended to us. Thank you. (APPLAUSE)

“Faith in Action – Knights Serving God, Serving the Community.” As Knights, we get to know what it means to be a member of a community of Catholic brothers. We’re not just friends, not just social contacts, not just business associates, not just neighbors, but catholic brothers. We have a firm sense of brotherhood that has to do with charity and unity, and as Catholics we understand that the source of that charity and the source of that unity is the Eucharist. It transcends anything that any secular association could offer. That’s why I ask that you to let this motto guide your actions in all that you do this year. As Knights of Columbus, let us lead the charge, “Into the Breach!”

Vivat Jesus!