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Arizona
State Council



K O C O A

Knights of Columbus of Arizona

November Newsletter 2025-2026

State Deputy

Greetings, my Brother Knights,

We start this newsletter with a message from our Worthy State Chaplain, Father David Halm.

Then we'll have a guest column from our Nate Raso, our General Agent.

We were fortunate to have the Relics of the Mexican Martyrs present at our Arizona Rosary Celebration Events in Tucson and Phoenix. The Relics then toured the state after ARC. Read the article from our Worthy State Secretary Larry Powers concerning the Relics and the tour. Thanks for leading the Relics Tour, WSS Larry!

Our Worthy State Warden and Membership director Dan Kudulis follows with a brief message on membership. Thank you for your hard work in the first months of the Fraternal Year! We broke records for July, August, and September recruiting, and had a second place all-time October. We're starting off incredibly strong in November as well. Let's see some more membership drives in the Tucson Area!

Worthy State Advocate Rich Tracy reminds us all how important it is that we be Knights of Columbus Safe Environment Compliant. As lay leaders in our Parishes, we have to take Safe Environment Compliance seriously.

We next have an update from our Worthy State Program Director, Ben Jimenez. Congratulations to our **September** and **October** Program Incentive Winners.

We'll wrap up with an EFF / COR message from Deacon Bruce and Father Arthur.

Remember, there are two upcoming Fourth Degree Exemplifications; December in Cave Creek, and January in Tucson. Click [HERE](#) for information and registration.

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



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State Chaplain

My Brothers,

Every November the Church prays especially ardently for the departed. My family called them “poor souls” (which has now become the term for Cardinals fans).

A few priests and I were recently reflecting on the many funerals we’ve been having in our parishes. Partly this is because of the size of our parishes in Arizona (i.e. much bigger than “back east”). Partly this is because of how important a funeral Mass remains to a grieving family and the recently deceased.

I’ll be very frank: so many funerals can wear on us priests - not because they are morbid or sad - quite the contrary! We try our best to accompany a grieving family and community. We try very hard to treat each funeral for what it is: the unique celebration and memorial of an earthly life and prayer for entry into eternal life. As any family who has lost a spouse, parent or child knows far too well it is perhaps the most painful time of one’s earthly life. Even with deep and firm faith in the Resurrection and Eternal Life there is heartbreaking sorrow in not having your loved one here physically anymore. It is also poignant and full of emotional rollercoasters. There is a joy in reunion of family and friends, laughter at funny pictures, videos and stories. There is also the attendant surge of sorrow remembering your loved one won’t be physically present at this year’s Thanksgiving Dinner or birthday party.

I speak from some experience this year. I continue to be so grateful to my brother Knights for your prayers for me, my mom, and sisters after Dad’s passing in February. Although I have performed many funerals over 10 years as a priest, this was very different for me. Yet I recognize that each funeral is for a particular family’s dad or mom or daughter or son or spouse or best friend. It is so important that we gather together in these moments to grieve, to remember - hopefully laugh a little - and to pray.

From time to time I will hear someone say they don’t want to “cause a fuss” for their family and friends after they die: “Just move on and get on with life” they may say. I think I understand the sentiment and the desire to ease what will surely be a difficult moment. Yet, I try to remind them that funerals are also a



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blessing to those who remain on earth. If someone has followed Jesus on earth we believe she or he will enter paradise after death. In that case, it's we the living (who still endure 120° Arizona summers) who merit tears.

But in all seriousness, it is cathartic and a work of mercy to attend to our grief by gathering in a sacred place at a sacred time. For similar reasons we remember these departed ones all November. In every rosary we say that we believe in “the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.” It’s the Truth: tears are natural and important, as is the hope we bear that “God will gather us together again in the joy of his kingdom.”

May all fallen Knights and their deceased loved ones rest in peace.

Vivat Jesus!

Fr. David Halm C.S.C.

State Chaplain



State Chaplain



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Raso Agency Updates:

There's been quite a few changes this year, from streamlining our Agency Operations to a more modern office network, to increasing our efforts across all channels of Life Insurance, Long Term Care Insurance, Disability Insurance, Retirement Annuities and, of course, our Knights of Columbus Asset Advisor investments. As you may know, we are always striving to be better engaged, be it by being better staffed or by better systems, or most frequently, a combination of the two. As such, I am pleased to announce that we have added two advisors to the Investment Advisor Representative role with KoCAA. Both Dan Wiley and John Mueller have put in tremendous amounts of study and preparation to fill that role in their respective regions. Thank you, men!

Our Main office is: 25 S Arizona Pl 5th Floor. Chandler AZ, 85225. 833-732-KofC

From Nate the Knight:

Brothers All!

As the year draws to a close and we gather with family and friends for the holidays, we at the Agency ask that you take some time to reflect on what matters most. Faith, family, and how both intersect with Knights of Columbus financial security. Your agents and agency are eager to be part of that planning and eager to help you find solutions that matter, solutions that are meaningful, and solutions that are rooted in our shared Catholic faith. Also, remember that we are nearing the halfway point of the fraternal year, so please create a plan suitable for your council, your parish, and your Agent/Advisor for Fraternal Benefit events. We are eager to help, and planning goes a long way towards a successful turnout. Also, this year we've been afforded many more online opportunities and direct council officer events that will count towards your council goals. Contact your agent or my office for more information. The number and address are above.

Remember, "Early is Easy". Don't wait until the end of the fraternal year to plan your Fraternal Benefit events!



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General Agent

I often reflect on the Agency and our message to you, our brothers, and how we can best communicate what the Order means to us and really, what it could mean to you as well. I think it's best summed up quite simply in "by brother Knights, for brother Knights". Our agents are taught to treat every member, every widow, every claim, every possible situation as if they were dealing with their own family. "What would you ask your own mother to know?", "how would you ask your own father to prepare", "what would you tell your newlywed child to do?" – these questions and many more fill our minds during our travels with you and your members.

This time of year is particularly difficult for so many of our brothers and their families. So, I wanted to ask two things of you; 1. Check on your brothers and remember Fraternity during the holidays and 2. Remember your field agents in your own planning. The Holy Spirit guides us every day, and I'd like to invite you to listen to that calling that you may hear to be better prepared.

The Order taught us "Tempus Fugit Memento Mori" for a reason, and I ask that you heed the watchword. We are all called to remember that our time will come and that we must be prepared, as family men, as Catholics, as Brother Knights. A Blessed Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to you all!

Vivat Jesus!

Nate Raso, General Agent

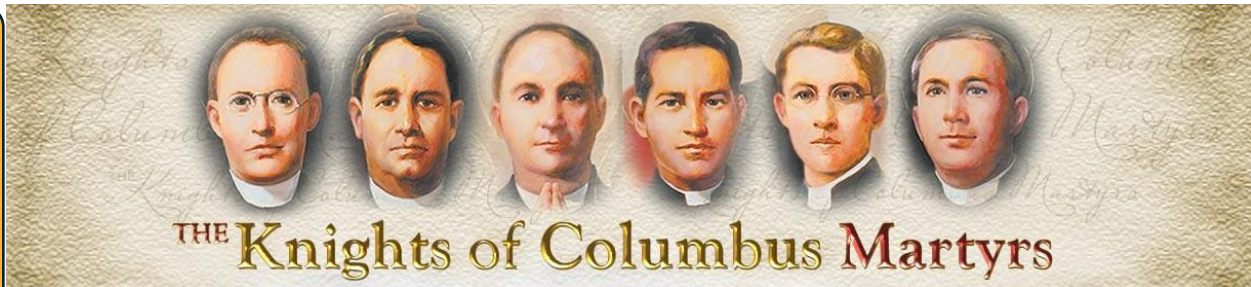




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State Secretary - Relics of the Mexican Martyrs



Happy November Brothers

I recently had the honor and the privilege to accompany the relics of the Mexican Martyrs to various stops in the state. What was most edifying to me was the sheer volume of people that came out to venerate the relics.

We had the relics at both the Tucson and Phoenix Rosary celebrations and from there they traveled with our St Chaplin, Fr David Halm, to his parish St John Vianney in Goodyear. They were there and were in the church for the students from the parish school and for two nights at holy hours. Both nights there was a line from the narthex to the Altar until almost 9:00 PM.

From there they traveled to St Mary Basha Catholic School in Chandler, where they were presented at the morning assembly by a student from Deacon Bruce Bennett's class to 400 students, parents, and staff. Later that day it was venerated at morning masses at both St Mary and Juan Diego Catholic Churches, and the evening Spanish Mass and Holy Hour at St Mary, again due to the demand lasting beyond 9:00 PM.

The relics then traveled to St John the Evangelist in Tucson, which held a mass for the students, a procession through the neighborhood followed by another well attend Mass and Holy Hour.

The Relics were then handed off to DD Larry Swanson who took them to St Ann's in Tubac, and later that day to Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Nogales for another Mass and Holy Hour lasting late into the evening.

The relics then traveled with DD Tom Felix to St. Patrick Church in Bisbee, St Andrew the Apostle in Sierra Vista, St. Bernard Catholic Church, Pirtleville.



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State Secretary - Relics of the Mexican Martyrs

The relics ended their Arizona journey in Douglas with a stop at Immaculate Conception and Ending with a Holy Hour and Mass at St Luke Catholic church attend by a large contingent of students from St Lorreta's.



It was an amazing week. Thanks to all of the brother Knights that helped throughout the tour of the relics.

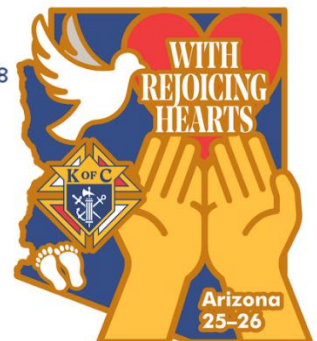
Vivat Jesus!

Lawrence A Powers

State Secretary
12090 N. Thornydale Rd. #110-498
Marana, AZ 85658
702-827-8135
larry.powers.azkofc@gmail.com
www.kofc-az.org
www.kofc.org/join



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State Warden / Membership Director

Worthies and Brothers All,

Because of your tremendous efforts, we continue to add new members to our Order almost every day! While we did not set a record for members recruited in October, we did recruit the 2nd highest total ever recorded for October. Year to date, we have added over 500 men in the State of Arizona and are well ahead of our numbers for the same time last year. Keep up the great work!!!

One area we can improve upon as a State continues to be getting our new Prospects through a live C-U-F Ceremony so they can be transferred into your councils. Since July 1st, we have almost 200 men that have joined the Knights of Columbus in AZ that HAVE NOT attended a C-U-F Ceremony. Does your council have prospects that need to attend a C-U-F? Why not host one in the month of November and get those men added to your council roster? Also, please do not offer your prospects the link to the on-line C-U-F. That link should only be used for extreme situations. Every council should work to establish their own C-U-F Ceremony team and host regularly scheduled Ceremonies. The councils around the state that are doing so are also the councils that keep exceeding their membership goals year after year. A great way to achieve success is to emulate those that are already successful!

We are now 33% through the Fraternal Year. If your council still has not added any members this year, now is the time to act!! Work with your Pastor to schedule a Church Drive. We continue to have great success when councils host Church Drives, many times resulting in enough new members to reach your Supreme goal! Please post your Church Drives on the AZ State Calendar, so that the State Membership Team can assist your council in their efforts. Plan a live C-U-F within 2 weeks of your drive, to bring those new men into your councils! (Post C-U-Fs on the calendar too!) I highly recommend planning a Church Drive for now through December 14. Hopefully you can add a few members to assist with all of your council's Christmas Programs!



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We'd like to see more church drives scheduled and placed on the state calendar in the Tucson Area. Click [HERE](#) to update the calendar online. If we know about your plans, we can help you.

Let's keep the momentum going! Our goal is to have 650 New Members by December 31st. I know we can do it!!!! Let me know how the State Team can help you reach your goals!!!

Vivat Jesus! ¡Viva Cristo Rey!

Dan Kudulis

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



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Brothers,

Let's talk Safe Environment Compliance (**again**).....

On November 7th, **68** Councils in Arizona were fully compliant, up from **59** in early October.

Several Councils came into full compliance, thank you, and at least

1 council fell out of compliance since my last report.

The incentive ended October 31st. On November 31st, **4** Districts were fully compliant:

District 4 – District Deputy Dave Chohon

District 13 – District Deputy Wayne Lorenzana

District 26 – District Deputy Deacon Ernie Trujillo

District 31- District Deputy Mike Cruz

Each District Deputy will receive a \$100 Gift Card for Knights Gear

Please continue to work towards full compliance. Submit your Forms 185/365 designating Brothers to serve in the required roles and ask them to complete the required training (and background checks where applicable) within 30 days of receiving the email. Information on the Order's Safe Environment program is available here (**click the pic**):





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Remember, to receive credit for the training, you must access it via the email link you will receive from Supreme. Also, please remember to comply with the Safe Environment requirements of your Diocese.

Serving with a Rejoicing Heart!
Vivat Jesus,

Richard J. Tracy, Jr.

State Advocate
12090 N. Thornydale Rd., #110-498
Marana, AZ 85658
Mobile: (520) 904-3175
Rich.TracyAZKofC@icloud.com
www.kofc-az.org



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Hello Brothers,

I want to thank all the councils that have been sending photos along with their 10784s. It is a true testament to your hard work and dedication in our Faith in Action programs. This is a little taste of what was accomplished in October.

Silver Rose and Mexican Relics



#8854 St. John's



#4584 St. Andrew's



Douglas, AZ



#863 Bisbee

Soccer Challenge



#8077



#3855



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Octoberfest & Trunk or Treat

#13272



CONGRATULATIONS – September and October Program Incentive Winners

Council 1200, *Tucson Mother Ship*, is the winner of a \$250 Coats for Kids Donation for their participation in the Soccer Challenge.

They along with 6 other councils held their council Soccer Challenge. They organized with their parish school during PE and had a successful turnout.

In September, a total of 284 forms were submitted in September. (118 Faith, 90 Community, 56 Family, and 20 Life)

Council 7626, St. Joseph the Worker, Williams, AZ is the winner of a \$200 RSVP Donation for presenting the Silver Rose at 24 hour adoration at their parish. Council 7626 also participated in Coats for Kids and distributed coats at St. Joseph's in Williams, St. Ann's in Ashfork, and St. Francis in Seligman.

In October, a total of 360 forms, **A NEW RECORD!** were submitted. (149 Faith, 103 Community, 58 Life and 50 Family)

A special shout out to the following councils who participated in the Silver Rose: 863, 4584, 8077, 8386, 8854, 9801, 11675 & 12851.

Much recognition to Council 4339 who distributed two cases of Coats to children on the Navajo Reservation, Council 17036, who teamed with their district and purchased 3000 Coats. WOW! And last to Council 13272, who purchased 336 Coats for Drexel Elementary, Roadrunner Elementary and the AZ School for the Deaf and Blind. Congratulations Councils for putting your Faith into Action!

State Program Director



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Next month, I will announce the November winner of a \$100 Ultrasound Initiative Donation for the Into the Breach, Global Wheelchair Mission and Coats again. Remember that new programs are eligible to be entered in the monthly drawings. Please continue to send in your forms.

PROGRAM UPDATES:

Pilgrim Icon Program - Enthronement of the Sacred Heart

Nov. 23 is the Feast of Christ the King and the perfect day to promote and run the Pilgrim Icon Program or distribute Home Enthronement materials to families. In fact, this year marks the 100th anniversary of *Quas Primas*, Pope Pius XI's encyclical instituting the feast!

All resources for these activities can be found for download or purchase at kofc.org/sacredheart. Additionally, Sacred Heart Holy Hour materials can also be ordered by councils for free on Supplies Online.

Remembering Our Faithful Departed

During the beginning of November, the Church gives us the opportunity to honor all the saints in heaven and pray for our faithful departed. The Remembering Our Faithful Departed program encourages councils to visit cemeteries and intercede for the souls in purgatory. Parishes that have Hispanic communities, can also build "ofrendas" to honor their faithful departed and intercede for their eternal rest. For resources to promote to councils, including a Memorial Rosary and prayer cards, visit the Remembering Our Faithful Departed section of the Family [resource](#) tab on kofc.org. You can also find the new program page [here](#). Items are also free on Supplies Online.

Global Wheelchair Mission

Help change the lives of people with disabilities worldwide by having your council donate at least \$150USD in the US and \$195CAD in Canada for a wheelchair. Through partnerships, councils can purchase a large container of 280 wheelchairs for their own donation sites. A featured program, Global Wheelchair Mission, counts for two credits toward the Columbian Award.



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State Program Director

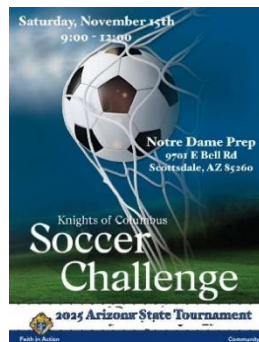
Through District partnerships, councils can also purchase a large container of 110 to 280 wheelchairs for their own donation sites.

REMINDERS:

Councils, get your [Catholic Citizen Essays](#) to DD Jeff Schenider by the end of November. Bronte8077@gmail.com

State Soccer Challenge

Remember to get your entries in to
DD Jeff Schneider or Fred DeVera



This month, please send me photographs of your Council Memorials, Coats for Kids distributions, Silver Rose, and other Faith in Action programs.

CONGRATULATIONS – Family of the Month Winners

August – **The Adrian Otero Family**, Fray Francisco Garces Council #3855, Glendale

September – **The Randy Norton Family**, Fr. Marcel Salinas Council, #11536, Mesa

Let us continue to put our Faith in Action and grow our order.

10784 - [Form Invitation](#)

With Rejoicing Hearts,

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



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Evangelization and Faith Formation - COR

Brother Knights,

At this year's Supreme Convention, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly reminded us of the enduring vision that has guided the Knights of Columbus since our founding. He said:

“Fr. McGivney...created the Knights...to give men a place to pursue greatness...we are still (doing this after 140 years) ...by helping men grow as husbands and fathers. We are now focused on reaching the next generation...and this is the reason we started Cor. The small group setting of Cor allows men a place to embrace the mission for which we have been made — the mission that God himself has uniquely given to them.”

These words beautifully capture the heart of who we are and what we strive to be. More than 140 years after our founding, the Knights remain dedicated to helping men grow in faith, in family life, and in service to others.

Now, as we reach out to the next generation, Cor offers a powerful way for men to live out this mission. Meaning “heart,” Cor provides a small group setting where men can share faith, build brotherhood, and discover the unique calling God has placed within each of us.

Through Cor, we are carrying forward Fr. McGivney's vision — giving men a place to pursue greatness, together. The mission continues, and the call to holiness still rings out. The Knights of Columbus are answering that call with renewed faith and purpose.

As of September 30, 2025, we're proud to share that 24 councils across Arizona are actively reporting their participation in Cor. That's a strong showing — but we know there are more councils meeting regularly who haven't reported it yet!

We need your help to make sure everyone's efforts are counted. If your council is hosting Cor gatherings, please take a moment to report your participation using the link found on the Cor Survey Link on the Cor website. Your updates help us highlight the great work happening throughout the state and inspire other councils to join in.



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Evangelization and Faith Formation - COR

We're also looking to form Diocesan Cor Teams — dedicated Knights who can assist councils in starting, refreshing, or strengthening their Cor dialogues. These teams will be vital in helping councils grow in fraternity and faith, ensuring every brother Knight has the opportunity to encounter Christ through meaningful conversation and brotherhood.

If you serve as a Council Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation or simply have a heart for deepening faith and fellowship, we invite you to consider being part of this new initiative.

Would you be interested in joining or helping to lead a Diocesan Cor Team?

Let us know! Together, we can continue building strong councils, stronger faith, and a stronger Arizona.

Vivat Jesus !

Dcn. Bruce Bennett, EdD

dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com

Fr. Arthur Nave, Jr.

frnaveaz@gmail.com





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State Council



Arizona State Knights of Columbus

12090 N. Thornydale Rd. #110-498 Marana, AZ 85658

2025-2026 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 <i>dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com</i>
State Membership Director	Dan Kudulis 602-647-3551 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	Ken Gallagher 520-661-1262 ses@kofc-az.org		District Master	Michael Paz 602-790-1789 sirknightmichaelpaz@gmail.com
			Executive Secretary to the State Deputy	Rick Garrison 480-522-7064 kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com



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Send a copy of all forms to kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com

DD's - Send expense reports to State Deputy

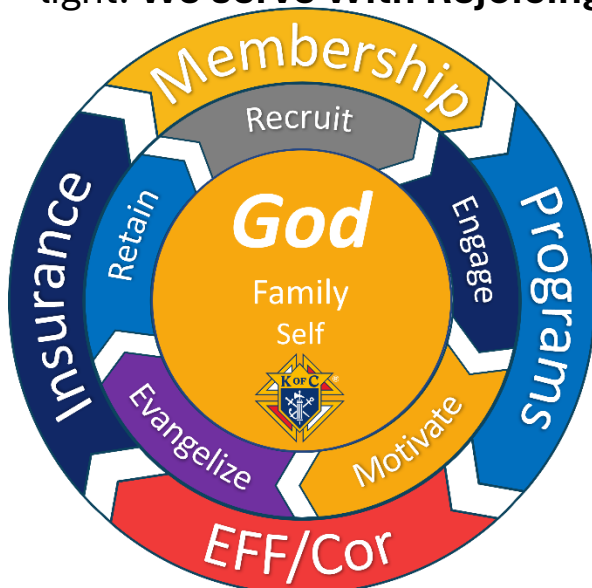
With Rejoicing Hearts – The Design

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,