



Knights of
Columbus®
Arizona
State Council



K O C O A

Knights of Columbus of Arizona

Q4 KOCOA

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea of Galilee

Brothers Knights,

Well, I hope that got your attention. There is a lot to pack into the statement above, so let's get at it.

And just like that, March 2025 is in the books! There is only one word to describe it: WOW!

- ASU St. Thomas Aquinas Council 8090 is back and on a tear! We brought 28 men in through the CUF Degree held at All Saints Newman Center on March 6. They have already had a couple of Fish Fries, assisted the Sisters of Life, volunteered for St. Vincent de Paul, and walked at 10+ mile pilgrimage from ASU to St. Mary's Basilica.
- Miami Women's and Men's Conferences – no, not Florida. Miami, Arizona. There were men who attended to hear Fr. Don Calloway for the Men's Conference from as far away as Nogales and Prescott! Over 150 men were in attendance to hear about the love and mercy of Jesus and the importance of emulating St. Joseph!
- Recruitment at St. Mary's Basilica was extraordinary! Thank you to the multiple DD's who came to help. The Church Membership Drive Playbook was followed to the tee and we ended up recruiting over 20 men! A special thank you to DD Jared Copeland for setting all of this up.

A couple of reminders regarding the State Convention May 2-3, 2025 at the Wildhorse Resort and Casino! Here are some quick bullet points for reminders:

- Register for the Convention at <https://kofc-az.org/state-convention>
- Register for your Hotel Room at <https://bookings.travelclick.com/75936?groupID=3911846>
- Register as a Delegate at <https://www.cognitofrms.com/statewebarizona/delegateformv2>
- Sell Raffle Tickets! It is a shorter selling time, as the convention is a couple weeks earlier than normal.

State Deputy



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We are excited to host the convention at the Wildhorse Pass Resort and Casino! The facilities are top of the line! Take time for a stay-cation as the rates are guaranteed for a couple days before and after the convention! We look forward to your participation and seeing you there!

We are getting down to the wire for Star Council! Please work with your District Deputy if you need assistance. A few things to check right now in order of importance:

- **Safe Environment Training Compliance** – Has the Grand Knight, Program Director, Family Director, and Community Director completed the training?
- **Fraternal Benefits Night** – The requirement is to host or attend 2 Fraternal Benefits Nights with either 10 or 14. The parish should be invited to these events! Work with your Field Agent to schedule in the month of May
- **Form 1728** – We have a few councils that are either at membership quota or close to membership quota that have not filled out the 1728. Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries, work together to get this done as soon as possible
- **SP-7** – Be sure to file this as soon as possible. File as early as possible in order that Supreme can review it in case there are issues and return back to you. Contact our Program Director Ben Jimenez (programs@kofc-az.org) if you need assistance.
- **Membership** – You may be wondering why I am prioritizing Membership last. It's because this is what we should be doing every day. This is not a one time filing or event, this is something should be engrained in our DNA as Knights of Columbus. However, that is just one part of membership. The other part is to make sure to get them through a C-U-F Degree!

Thank you for all that you are doing to invite men into the Knights of Columbus, get them closer in their faith with Cor, and all the programs that you do modeling what Jesus has taught us. Together, we will have our Faith Transform the Culture!

Vivat Jesus!

Thomas Kato

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Brothers all,

Every Friday morning we priests and deacons (and most religious brothers and sisters) pray Psalm 51 as part of the Divine Office, also called the Breviary. I won't take up the State Deputy's whole newsletter with the entire psalm, but a few lines are particularly apt to us Knights this Lent:

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.

In your compassion blot out my offense.

*O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.*

*Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervor sustain me...*

I encourage you to read Psalm 51 in your private prayer and maybe even in your next Council meeting or Cor activity. It is attributed to King David, written after his murder of Uriah and adultery with Bathsheba, in atonement and prayer for God's forgiveness. I'm quite confident no Arizona Knight is praying for forgiveness for similar crimes... but all of us have need of conversion and humble prayer before God. We have completed the first four weeks of Lent and in the coming month will complete this sacred season and observe Holy Week and rejoice at the Resurrection of Our Savior.

So, the psalm's prayer that God would "*wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin*" is deeply meaningful to us. As Knights we desire to be clean, pure, holy men. Importantly, King David includes here his prayer that joy would come back to him - we are not called to wallow in our shame or guilt, and the Lord doesn't seem to want to "rub our noses" in it. Rather, He came to give us life, and that more abundantly (Jn 10:10). I highlight the next line because I cannot think of a better passage for Knights of Columbus - who besides being holy men are fervent men! We have a spirit of fervor in all our prayer, charity, fraternity and the many activities we do. This fervor sustains us, keeping us united and drawing us deeper into the Christian mystery.

Vivat Jesus!

Fr. David

State Chaplain

State Chaplain



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Worthy Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries,

State and Supreme Assessments

It's important that councils pay all valid assessments. I have mentioned Arizona assessments a few times in this space. There are still Councils that have not paid their second half bill.

- State Per Capita is how the State Council's work is funded. The assessment is \$5.50 per billable member per half. Inactive members are \$2.25 per half. Honorary Life and Disabled members are not charged. Disabled members must be registered through Form 1831 with Supreme. Billing is based on the Supreme record of Council Membership as of January 1, 2025.
- Voluntary donations to the Navarrete Vocations Fund and to St. Joseph Youth Camp are also accepted.
- If you did not pay your First Half Per Capita, that balance will be included in the Second Half statement.
- Remember, Delegates from Councils that are not current on their Per Capita will not be seated at the State Convention.

In addition to State Assessments, each council also receives a bill from the Supreme Council. Failure to pay Supreme Assessments can result in a Council being suspended by Supreme. Financial Secretaries and Grand Knights, please review your Council Billing Statement in the Officers Online Reports Tab. If your Statement shows your Council is not current, please pay it right away to keep your Council in good standing.

Payments of State and Supreme Assessments are mandatory and do not require a council vote to authorize payment.

Thank You!

Kevin McCarthy
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State Secretary



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Brother Knights,
Congratulations to the **Roy Champeau, Council #8077**, Tucson! They are the February winner incentive winner for a \$100 Sacramental Gifts Donation. 8077 presented the new Sacred Heart of Jesus Icon for a council Holy Hour. Brothers, I know other councils participated in February, 8077, was one of only two councils that submitted 10784s. Please send them in and give your council a chance to win the monthly incentive.



COUNCIL PREPARATIONS FOR LENT & EASTER

Brother Knights, Lent is a period of deep reflection as we prepare for the most sacred celebration, Easter. It is a season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. As Catholics and as Knights, it's an opportunity to grow closer in our relationship with Jesus Christ so we can better lead our families and serve our parishes and communities.

There is a series of short videos on the Supreme website on "Your Lenten Mission." Join Fr Jonathan Kalisch, the Director of Chaplains and Spiritual Development at Supreme.

[Council Preparations for Lent & Easter | KofC.org](https://www.kofc.org/council-preparations-for-lent-easter)

In his 2025 Lenten message, **Pope Francis** reflects on the Jubilee theme "Pilgrims of Hope," calling upon all Catholics to "journey together in hope" during this holy season. "This Lent, God is asking us to examine whether in our lives, in our families, in the places where we work and spend our time, we are capable of walking together with others, listening to them, resisting the temptation to become self-absorbed and to think only of our own needs." Lent provides a special opportunity for Knights to consider the needs of those around them and rededicate themselves to the Order's first principle, charity. Councils may participate in many Faith In Action programs during Lent. There are Holy Hours, Rosary Programs, Sacramental Gifts, and Novenas, to name a few.



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Program Director

Congratulations to the **Bishop Jerome J. Hastrich , Council #12078**, Showlow! They are the March incentive winner for a \$100 Special Olympics Donation. They, along with three other councils, sent in 10784s for the Spiritual Reflection Program. 12078, hosted the White Mountains Men’s Conference, which was a spiritual retreat of prayer, contemplation, and encouragement for Catholic men of faith in the White Mountain Area. After the conference, 12078 conducted a holy hour. Outstanding! They qualify for 4 points towards the SP-7.

For **April**, councils that submit 10784s for **Good Friday Family Promotion** and or participate in **Eucharistic Processions** on Holy Thursday are eligible to win the \$150 Global Wheelchair Donation

Thank you to all who attended the March 15, AZ March for Life, Phoenix, at Wesley Bolin Plaza in front of the Capitol Building.



The **State Free Throw Championship** at Notre Dame Prep on March 29 was a great success. Thank you, DD Eric Barna, our State Free Throw Chair, and Rick Garrison, for your outstanding work. DD Tyson Gentz was on hand to grill the dogs and burgers, thank you! Your continued organization of this event has produced a solid championship yearly.





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Program Director

CONGRATULATIONS! Noelle Evans, sponsored by Council 16277 in Chandler, AZ, was named the international runner-up in the kindergarten-grade division of the "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest. This is an amazing accomplishment, way to go Noelle!



Pictured left to right, Pat Stolze Lector. Don Cipicchio, Grand Knight. Gale Skarphol, Chancellor. David Saldivar, Membership Director.

Reminders:

- Remember to contact our Pilgrim Icon Program Director, Bryant Sayers, and sign up to present the new Sacred Heart of Jesus Icon at your Holy Hours and Cor meetings. (<https://kofc-az.org/pilgrim-icon-program>)

10784s! Please continue to send them in. [Form Invitation \(kofc.org\)](https://kofc.org).

Thank you to the councils that sent in their 10784s. In February, **306** forms were received. Community Programs led the month with 120, followed by Faith 87, Family 71, and Life 28.

In March, **284** forms were received. Faith Programs led with 98, Community 88, Family 60, and Life 38.

Again, thank you, Councils, for your continual impact on your parishes and communities.

Easter Blessings,

Benjamin Jimenez
State Program Director
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Brothers,

As we enter the 4th Quarter of the Fraternal Year, we need to continue offering the **gift** of membership to every Catholic man we meet. Many councils have already reached their Supreme Membership Goal, and are closing in on Double, Triple, and Quadruple Stars! We also have a large number of councils that are only 1 or 2 new members away from reaching their goal. Unfortunately, some councils are struggling to reach their goal.

We have good news for all of you!!! The State Team has formulated some plans to help all councils add more members in the 4th Quarter, giving everyone the opportunity to shine like a Star!!!

Low Hanging Fruit

As a state, we have over **600 prospects** that have signed up as Knights but not completed the C-U-F! We are asking all councils to do the following between now and June 1st, in order to maximize your chances of converting prospects into council members:

- 1) Schedule a C-U-F Ceremony at your council, preferably on Sunday in the Church. If that is not possible, many councils are hosting a C-U-F right before their monthly business meeting.
- 2) Contact EVERY (all 18) prospect on your list and invite them and their families to attend the C-U-F. Here's the most effective way we have found to contact them:
 - a) Phone Call
 - b) Email them 2 days later
 - c) Text them 2 days after the email

If you do not get a response after the 3 attempts, click the "Reject" button and select "Does Not Want To Transfer". In doing so, the member will be added to the State Council roster and come off of your prospect list. They can transfer into your council in the future if they decide to move forward, once they have attended a C-U-F.

My suggestion is you only reject the prospects from before July 1st of 2024. Keep the most recent prospects a little while longer, as they are more likely to join the council. Hopefully, this will assist your council in reaching your goal. If you need

Membership Director



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a hand in hosting a C-U-F, or holding a church drive, please let me know. I will be glad to help in any way I can.

Quest for 20,000

We continue to have an amazingly strong year when it comes to recruiting. We continue to be well ahead of last year's pace, and we had one of the biggest months in our history for the month of March! We need every council's help to finish the year strong! As we start April, the State of Arizona needs only 200 more men to hit the 20,000 member mark. If each council recruits just 2 new members in the next 3 months, we can eclipse that mark before the end of the Fraternal Year. The key will be to get as many new recruits and existing prospects through a C-U-F Degree. Our goal is to have every prospect transferred into a council before June 20th. This will insure that your councils get the correct membership credit before the books close for the Fraternal Year on Monday June 30th. If you need assistance with a C-U-F, let me know. We can make it happen!

Church Drive Two-For-One

Church Drives continue to be our most successful way to recruit new members in a short amount of time. In recent weeks, we have seen councils that have not recruited members in several years hold church drives, and after just one day, they recruited enough members to qualify for Star Council! Is your council short on programs as well? If so, we have a way you can both recruit and get program credit at the same time.

Book a church drive between now and June 22nd. When posting it on the State Calendar, request one of the Pilgrim Icons to be at your event. Here's how the program works: As parishioners enter church for Mass, members of the council hand out the Prayer Cards that correspond to the Icon. During your recruiting pulpit speech, invite everyone to come to the Icon after Mass is over to pray together at the Icon. Once the prayer service is over, you'll have a group of people there that you can talk to about joining the Knights. We have tried this out with great success already, and it's a great way to demonstrate how the Knights of Columbus put our

Membership Director



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Faith into Action!! After doing the prayer services, you can list the Pilgrim Icon Program on your SP-7 for your Columbian Award!

➤ **Schedule a Church Drive and Post It on the State Calendar**

www.kofc-az.org/events-calendar

➤ **Host an In-Person C-U-F Degree Within a Week of the Church Drive**

➤ **Contact All Prospects For Your Council and Get Them To Attend the C-U-F**

➤ **Transfer All New Members Via Officers On-Line That Day**

Thanks again for your extraordinary efforts in recruiting this year. Your hard work is paying big dividends for your councils! Let me know how I can help you finish the year strong!

Vivat Jesus! Viva Cristo Rey!

Dan Kudulis

State Membership Director

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Dan Kudulis

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Membership Director



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Church Membership Drive Playbook

2-3 Weeks Prior

- Post dates of church drive on state calendar
- Run ads in church bulletin every week
- Organize teams of 6-8 brother knights for each mass
- Invite the Field Agent to help out
- Ask pastor/priests to promote the knights and encourage men to join

Day Of Event

- Greet parishioners before each mass
- Hand out K of C info to men and prayers cards to the ladies & children
- With Pastor's permission, give a 2-3 minute pulpit speech (note: have your best speaker do it, not always the GK)
- Conclude pulpit announcement by reciting prayer on prayer card handed out (members distribute more during speech)
- Cover all exits after mass. Greet everyone but identify men that might be interested
- Funnel prospects to the "closers" on your team. Have agent code and team membership numbers available.
- Assist candidates with completing on-line membership ***and*** have candidate confirm while standing there
- Congratulate and welcome your new brother knight (and his family) with a smile and firm handshake!!

The Following Sunday

- Host A C-U-F Degree Ceremony immediately after the last mass of the day
 - Have The Ceremony in the church, of possible
 - Host a luncheon/desserts & coffee/social event immediately after ceremony ends.
- This will give you a chance to meet and learn about the new member and allow him to meet and greet his new brother knights!
- Ask new brothers to introduce themselves and their families before eating
 - Have FinSec hand out membership cards before new members depart

We are finding that by following this playbook (with modifications unique to each council), we are having more success at not only getting members to join, but also getting them engaged early, providing the council with an influx of active members looking for programs to participate in.



Monthly Incentives!

Monthly-All Members

Knights of Columbus Books

- One Entry For Each New Member
- One Winner Each Month

Monthly-District Deputies

K of C Cooler Bag

- One Entry For Each Council That Recruits A New Member
- One Winner Each Month

Quarterly-All Members

K of C Silver Watch

- One Entry For Each New Member Recruited That Quarter
- One Winner Each Quarter

Quarterly-District Deputies

K of C Duffel Bag

- One Entry For Each Council That Meets Quarterly Membership Goal
- One Winner Each Quarter

1st Quarter-Councils

\$200 for Coats for Kids

- Achieve 25% of Goal for Q1
- One Winner Drawn

2nd Quarter-Councils

\$300 for Sleep in Heavenly Peace

- Achieve 50% of Goal for Q2
- One Winner Drawn

3rd Quarter-Councils

\$500 for ASAP

- Achieve 75% of Goal for Q3
- One Winner Drawn

4th Quarter-Councils

\$500 for Global Wheelchair Mission

- Achieve 100% of Goal by 5/31/25
- One Winner Drawn

Quarterly-All Councils

Knights of Columbus Personalized Canopy

- Councils Are Eligible After Hosting a Church Membership Drive During The Quarter

- Council **MUST** Post The Church Drive On The State Drive Calendar At Least Two Weeks Prior To The Event

- One Winner Drawn Each Quarter



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"Consume my heart with that burning fire with which Your Heart is ever inflamed." - Saint John Henry Newman

The words of Saint John Henry Newman resonate deeply within the mission of the Knights of Columbus. These men, whose hearts are set on Christ, are called to live with passion and purpose in their faith. The Knights of Columbus' mission is grounded in the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. But more than just an organization, the Knights are about forming men of faith who build up their families, their communities, and the Church.

At the core of the Knights of Columbus' mission lies the "Cor" program. Designed to strengthen and nurture the men in our parishes, Cor aims to help men grow in prayer, fraternity, and formation. Through these pillars, men develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and their fellow brothers in faith. It is through the shared experience of prayer and support that men grow in their understanding of Christ's love and how to live out His teachings in their everyday lives.

By focusing on prayer, men are encouraged to come together, offering their hearts in supplication and gratitude for the grace we receive. Fraternity allows men to build lasting bonds, creating a strong foundation of brotherhood in our Catholic communities. Lastly, the program's formation aspect ensures that men are not just engaged in a moment of spiritual growth but are continually being educated and formed to live out their faith more fully.

Cor is not just a program; it is a movement that helps men live more faithfully in the Church and in the world. Men who participate in Cor are invited into a transformative journey, where they come to know the Lord better and become stronger witnesses of His love to the world.

To the councils already participating in this life-changing program, a heartfelt thank you for your dedication to building up the faith of your members and your parish community. If your council is involved in Cor, please send me a quick email with your council number and church name to let me know you are participating. I look forward to hearing from you!

You can reach me at:

dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com

Cor



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SJYC

PO Box 7658

Surprise, Az 85374-0110

4860 Mormon Lake Rd.

Mormon Lake, AZ 86038

Worthy Grand Knights and Deputy Grand Knights,

On behalf of St. Joseph's Youth Camp I would like to wish you a Happy New Year! Please note that our PO Box has changed.

As we conclude this Christmas season and enter into the second half of the fraternal year I would like to make a request for all councils to contribute to St. Joseph's in the upcoming Per Capita Assessment.

I would also request that you discuss in your council meetings and enter into your budget contributions to St. Joseph's for the upcoming State Convention in May. Every year St. Joseph's receives requests for financial aid in sending children to camp. The number of requests last year increased, and largely due to the generosity of the councils we were able to accommodate many of the requests. This includes sending 10 children of struggling veterans to camp for free!

Thank you for your overwhelming generosity.

Vivat Jesus!

S.K. James Mead

President, Board of Directors

St. Joseph's Youth Camp





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Arizona State Knights of Columbus
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2024-2025 State Leadership Team

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--|
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**Please note: SJYC New mailing address: SJYC
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Faith Transforms Culture – The Design

The Eucharist is the center of the state. We need to keep Christ at the center of everything we do.

The word “Transforms” extends out from the Eucharist and wraps around the state. This transformation happens internally in each one of us so that we can transform those we encounter.

The rays coming from the Eucharist are symbolic of the colors of the State of Arizona.

- The Gold is the color of Jesus' Divinity. He is True God.
- The Red is the color of Jesus' blood: He is truly Human.

Blue is the color of Mary. We need to ask for Mary’s intercession to her Son by praying the Rosary often.

The baby feet are white to signify the pure innocence lost with every abortion that occurs. We will continue to support Life from Conception to Natural Death.



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

Each knight has to do 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.