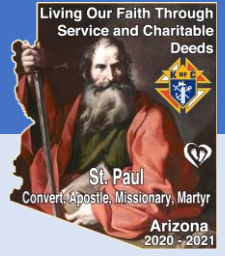




K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA
"LIVING OUR FAITH THROUGH
SERVICE AND CHARITABLE DEEDS"



State Deputy's Message



Brothers,
Of all the messages I have written to you for this newsletter, this one is by far the hardest for me. While I am sad that this is my last month as your State Deputy, I am also happy and pleased with all that we have accomplished these past two years, and excited to see what great things will be accomplished by your newly elected State Officers. To Worthy

State Chaplain Father Gary Regula and my brother State Officers, I offer you my heartfelt thanks for your support, advice, and leadership on behalf of the some 18,000 brother Knights in the jurisdiction of Arizona. To our worthy State Deputy-elect Luigi Baratta and the newly elected State Officers for the upcoming fraternal year, I offer you my unwavering support and guidance. I also welcome the newest State Officer, Worthy State Warden-elect Bobby Nielsen. Congratulations brother Bobby!

These past two years have been some of the most challenging years the Arizona State Council has faced in its 114-year history. However, with the grace of God and the guidance of the founder of our Order, Blessed Michael McGivney, a safe and satisfactory conclusion is in sight. It was through the Charity, Unity, and Fraternity of every Knight in Arizona that we persevered. To you my brothers, I say thank you!

This has been one of the best times to be a Knight of Columbus. As we have said numerous times, "Where there is a need, there is a Knight." This have never been truer than in these past 15 months.

I write this message having recently returned from the State Convention. I was amazed at the exceptional turnout for this event. I believe it was one of the most well-attended Conventions in recent years. I was so happy to see such a great turnout of the Fourth Degree to provide an honor guard for our Masses on Friday and Saturday. They added such a sense of reverence for the services. I am thankful to our bishops for joining us to preside and the priests and deacons who concelebrated or attended the convention, especially Bishop Emeritus Kicanas and Bishop Weisenburger from Tucson, Bishop Pazak from the Eparchy of Phoenix, and our Worthy Associate State Chaplain Father Crino from Tucson. It was truly a blessing to have them join us during the Convention.

In February 2020, we hosted the Phoenix Catholic Men's Conference with a theme of "Catholic Men Linked as Brothers." This was a perfect theme for an event where Former Supreme Knight Carl Anderson was a guest speaker. During a lunch he had with us State Officers and a few State Directors and District Deputies, the Supreme Knight reminded us that the church lives or dies with the parish and that the Knights are the strong right arm of the Catholic Church and will only be the strong right arm of the Catholic Church if the local council is the strong right arm of their pastor. These words inspired me and have been a guide for our work as we engaged in charitable efforts and recruitment to increase our members.

June 2021

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Pope Francis proclaims "Year of St Joseph"

Oh, **St. Joseph**, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God. I place in you all my interests and desires. Oh, **St. Joseph**, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.



June Intention *The Beauty of Marriage*

Let us pray for young people who are preparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community: may they grow in love, with generosity, faithfulness and patience.



K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Deputy's Message - continued

June 2021 Page [2](#)

The number of notable charitable works accomplished these past two years are too numerous to list in this message, but one in particular, exemplifies what Charity, Unity, and Fraternity can accomplish. The Knights of Our Lady of the Desert Council 15704 in Tucson learned that due to the pandemic, the Redemptorist Renewal and Retreat Center was suffering severe monetary losses after complying with orders that cancelled public gatherings. With no retreats, there was no income for the center, the parish, Our Lady of the Desert, and staff. Seeing this great need, the Knights responded by raising funds to offset the retreat center's losses. Through their efforts and the generosity of one brother who matched the council's donations, and the donations of other council members, they raised in total, over \$46,000 to keep the retreat center and parish in business. This was such an exemplary achievement.

Our acts of Charity extended to our Culture of Life programs over the past two years. During this time, we joined together to raise funds for five ultrasound machines that were donated to these centers around the state: Hope Crisis Pregnancy Center, CareNet Pregnancy Center, Choices Pregnancy Centers, Reachout Pregnancy Center, and Vineyard Pregnancy Center. These were purchased by funds raised by Councils, Assemblies, the State Council, and matched by the Supreme Council.

The Order in Arizona has continued to grow these past two years. We started on July 1 2019 with a total net-net membership of 16955 and as of the end of May 2021 we are at 17479, an increase of 524 members. We established 5 new councils, numbers 17370, 17491, 17493, 17502 and 17715. This number includes three Hispanic councils and two Byzantine Catholic Councils. We also successfully reactivated two councils, numbers 5313 and 13568. Through your efforts, Arizona made it into the Supreme Circle of Honor for membership last year and we are very close to attaining that honor again this year. As of the end of May we are 80 new members short of our goal. Brothers, the goal is very achievable but requires the efforts of each and every council. **I have one last special favor to ask of you. I would like each of our 137 active councils to promise to recruit at least one online member from now till June 30. If that happens we will not only achieve Circle of Honor but we will be very close to achieving the Pinnacle Award, the highest award offered by the Supreme Council.** I don't think I am asking much from you. I know we can do this if we all pull together. Let us pray for the intercession of Blessed Michael McGivney to help us achieve our goal.

The Arizona Rosary Celebration will be held this year on October 16-17, 2021, at St. Augustine Cathedral in Tucson and the Phoenix Convention Center in Phoenix. Both events are planned to be in-person as they have been in pre-Covid years. Of course, contingency plans are being made in case we must change direction, but for now, we want to invite everyone to attend in-person. We need your help to spread the word. In 2021 we will honor Mary under Her title Our Lady of Sorrows. Additionally, I want every Council and Assembly to purchase advertising in the program book to help finance the celebration. This is the only source of funding for a major program of such magnitude with costs of nearly \$80,000. Councils should also send representatives to the planning committee meetings to take back important information to the parishes. With your help this annual event will continue to provide great spiritual solace to our brothers and sisters. For more, check the website www.azrosary.net.



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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Deputy's Message - continued

June 2021 Page 3

These are the times when we run to the breach to tackle whatever adversary awaits, even if it is a microscopic virus. We do this by being of service to our priests, parishioners and neighbors and we do this when we perform acts of charity for those members in our community who are in need. I would like to close my final message to you with an excerpt from Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans. In the fifth chapter he spoke about faith, hope and love. This seemed to be a most apt message to share with you. Saint Paul writes,

"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access [by faith] to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God.

Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope, and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life. Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation (Romans 5:1-11)."

Looking back over the past 15 months under the duress of the Covid pandemic, we can boast of its affliction on us that produced greater endurance and imbued us with much character. This resulted from our faith in Jesus Christ and comes from our hope and through the love God poured into our hearts. Best of all, we are rewarded when we pour out that love in charity and mercy toward our fellow men. So, I will say it again, "Where there is a need, there is a Knight."

Mary Ann and I have been blessed by the great outpouring of love, support, and generosity shown to us by so many these past two years. We thank you from the bottoms of our hearts. We ask Blessed Michael McGivney to pray for you and your families.

Vivat Jesus,

Mario Vassallo
State Deputy



K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Chaplain – Father Gary Regula

June 2021 Page 4

Dear Brother Knights,

The month of June begins with the liturgical celebration of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus Christ (or simply called Corpus Christi by some of us older Catholics). This solemnity may seem somewhat redundant in that every Sunday is a celebration of Christ present in the gift of the Eucharist. We may want to ask ourselves why do we need a particular Sunday set aside to celebrate what gathers us together every Sunday of the year; however, if we look at the church and the world around us the answer is simple, we need this solemnity.

We may have heard that even amongst Catholics only about one-third believe that the gift of the Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ; thus, we need to consume this great gift in order to break ourselves in service to the world around us. After over a year when we have become somewhat comfortable with watching Mass online we need to break out of our comfort zone and come forward and say 'Amen' so that we may be fed the nourishment we need to continue our journey of faith.

We need to remember that the Rite of Communion begins with the praying together of the Our Father, that is to unite us in prayer before becoming one in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The gift of Communion is there to unite us as one in Christ. We need the gift of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus Christ to help us overcome the divisions that have crept into the Church and into our world whether in government or amongst nations.

Every time we consume the Body and Blood of Christ we are saying we want to become what we consume. We want to become the love of Jesus Christ. We want to become the mercy of God for this world. We want to go out and evangelize in the world and in our families of the Good News not of some entity or person on this earth, but of the Good News that is Jesus Christ.

As we continue the month we come to Father's Day. We should want to take our families to receive Christ present in the Eucharist. We should want to become role models of faith for them. We should want to create holy families who believe in the Real Presence of the Eucharist. We should want to be nourished for our role as Knights for we have to rise above the petty divisions created by humanity and be united in Christ. Let us celebrate every Sunday as a time to receive Christ. Let us then go out and pour ourselves out in service and compassion to all God's children. Let us know that to bring people together we need to be united to and in Christ. May we become becomes of His light and proclaimers of His Word. May we go and invite others into the life Christ gives us in His Most Holy Body and Blood.

Vivat Jesus,

Fr. Gary Regula
State Chaplain



K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Program Director – Tom White

June 2021 Page 5

Brothers,

Last weekend the state council held our annual convention in Scottsdale. It was really great to be able to meet again, in person. There was a large turnout for the meetings and dinners afterward and we were able to get back to the fraternalism that makes being a Knight of Columbus special.

During my programs presentation I was happy to have a few of this year's program chairmen and directors present the programs that they have directed and supported so well this year. While it has been a down year for many, other councils have had maybe their best year recruiting and performing their programs, ever.

As of this writing, 25 councils have submitted SP7s for the Columbian Award. Let me express my thanks to the GKs, Program Directors, and council membership that found a way to do what knights do... serve our parishes and communities. Your members took initiative, thought outside the box, and were productive all year.

State Council Program awards were presented after the Friday evening dinner. Congratulations to Council 11440 for earning awards in three categories: Faith, Family, and Life. Congratulations also to my home council 13779 for earning the Community award. Family of the Year went to Alfred and Carmen Trejo of Council 5542. These winning entries will move on to Supreme for consideration to earn Supreme awards. Good Luck to everyone!

Listed below is a breakdown of reported programs that were completed by our councils. A lot of good work was done this year. A phrase that was used often during the convention was: "where there is a need, there is a Knight"; it may never have been more true than this year.

I want to thank our outgoing WSD Mario Vassallo. His leadership was very apparent all year. I want to thank him personally for appointing me Program Director this year. I have really enjoyed the position; and I hope that I have been able to help when needed. See you at the Organizational Meetings in a few weeks.

Vivat Jesus!

Tom White
DD27/SPD



K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



2020-21 ARIZONA STATE PROGRAMS BREAKDOWN

FAITH



INTO THE BREACH 53
 ROSARY PROGRAM 138
 BDC KIOSK 40
 THAT MAN IS YOU 4
 HOLY HOUR 46
 RSVP 48
 SPIRITUAL REFLECTION 80

FAMILY



FAMILY FULLY ALIVE 4
 KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS 47
 FOOD FOR FAMILIES 167
 FAMILY OF THE MONTH 87
 CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY 21
 FAMILY PRAYER NIGHT 10

COMMUNITY



LNNB 190
 BLOOD DRIVE 11
 COATS FOR KIDS 48
 HABITAT FOR HUMANITY 14
 GLOBAL WHEELCHAIR 11
 DISASTER PREPAREDNESS 11
 CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY 28
 HELPING HANDS 90

LIFE



NOVENA FOR LIFE 45
 PREGNANCY CTR. SUPPORT 51
 SILVER ROSE 25
 ROSARY FOR LIFE 15
 BLOOD DRIVE 5
 ULTRASOUND INITIATIVE 16
 SPECIAL OLYMPICS 3
 SPECIAL NEEDS 12



K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Membership Director – Bobby Nielsen

June 2021 Page 7

My Brother Knights,

I ended last month's membership KOCOA article with "I am looking forward to seeing you at the state convention. Come visit me at the membership canopy" and Arizona Knights responded. It was great to see so many familiar faces and meet Knights that were attending their first state convention. It was clear we all theft the convention excited about our accomplishments and ready to end the year strong.

After 11 months of work most councils are in a position to earn Supreme awards by adding one or two members or attending the Raso Agency benefits seminar on June 2nd. There is plenty of time to have online members that are assigned to your council attend a CUF Exemplification. Additionally, there's time to recruit new men into the Order and add them to your council roster. Every council should have an organized recruiting drive in the last month of the fraternal year. June has historically been our best recruiting month, and that's exactly what we need now.

To earn the 2020-2019 Supreme Circle of Honor Award Arizona needs to recruit just over 80 more Knights by June 30, 2021. We are in a unique position. After earning this coveted award in the 2019-2020 fraternal year it would be typical to have a slow recruiting year. But Arizona Knights haven't allowed that to happen. Growing the Order, providing Faith in Action Programs and having the best insurance benefits available is in the DNA of our brothers. With your help Arizona will earn the Circle of Honor Award again this year.

A new incentive was offered at the state convention that was well received. State Deputy Mario Vassallo saw the energy and excitement that the incentive brought and extended it for 2 additional weeks. Any Knight that brings a new member into the order through the online membership program will receive a Father McGivney Medallion and a copy of the book *Parish Priest Father Michael McGivney and American Catholicism*. Additionally, the designated council of the new member will receive \$25. Now is the time to recruit and earn truly meaningful prizes and give some extra money to your parish. You can see details on the incentive on the following page.

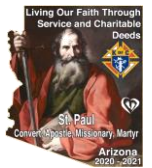
Brothers, Arizona Knights of Columbus needs your help. Recruiting is the responsibility of every Knight. It doesn't take a council meeting to set up a recruiting drive. Council leaders can pick a date in June, ask Father for permission, find a couple men to recruit and start a conversation with a parishioner! I am confident you will have success promoting and growing the Order. State officers and directors want to help you. Set up the drive and let us know when and where to show up. We are all Knights and where there's a need, there's a Knight!

Bobby Nielsen
State Membership Director
Membership@kofc-az.org



K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA

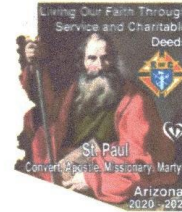


State Membership Director – Bobby Nielsen - continued

June 2021 Page 8



*Arizona State Council
Knights of Columbus*



End of Fraternal Year Online Membership Incentive May 25, 2021 to June 15, 2021

After a successful weekend recruiting at the State Convention, Arizona State Council will continue the membership incentive that was started at the convention and add a cash prize for the recruiting council. Any Knight that signs up a new member online or provides the needed information to do so, will win a copy of *Parish Priest Father Michael McGivney and American Catholicism* and a Father McGivney Medallion.

Additionally, the designated council for the new member will receive \$25!

Here are the Rules

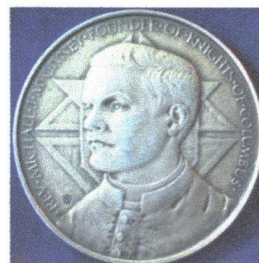
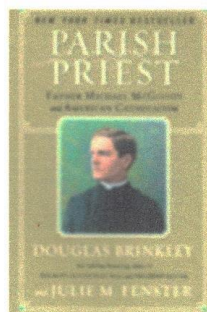
You can sign the new member up online; the new members name must be reported to Bobby Nielsen by texting 520 349-0728 or emailing the information to: membership@kofc-az.org

Or you can send the needed information to Bobby Nielsen for entry, please include:
Name, date of birth, address, phone number, email address, parish, council and proposer

There is no limit to how many prizes can be won by a council or a Knight. Recruit 4 new members and the council will win \$100! New members do not need to complete a CUF for the prizes to be awarded. Once the Supreme Circle of Honor Goal is obtained, the incentive will end

Prizes will be awarded at the Arizona State Organizational Meeting. Prizes that are not claimed at the organizational meeting will be mailed to the winning Knight and winning council

Let's have fun with this incentive. There are many relatives, friends, coworkers and parishioners out there that are ready to join the Order. Or have a recruiting drive at your parish!





K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



Hispanic Recruiting Coordinator – Luis L. Leyva

June 2021 Page 9

We have been called to evangelize ...

Mark 3: 13-15 “He now went up onto the mountain and summoned those he wanted. So, they came to him and he appointed twelve; they were to be his companions and to be sent out to proclaim the message, with power to drive out devils.”

Now that we can almost see the end of our fraternal year, once again I share with you these verses from the Gospel of Saint Mark, where we are reminded of how Jesus calls us to follow him, become his disciples and go around the world to spread the good news. , his **GOSPEL**. We are committed as Catholic men to **EVANGELIZE**.

We must, as Christians, extend this call to other Catholic men within our worshipping communities (our parishes) and invite them to be a crucial part of this commandment of Jesus Christ. It is important that we communicate that we are not looking for holy or righteous men. The Lord looked for sinners who needed to be healed by his grace.

Once again, I invite you to help grow our Christian faith by taking the gospel through our order of Knights of Columbus, **WE ARE INVITING EVERY CATHOLIC MAN TO JOIN OUR FRATERNITY**.

BROTHERS, AS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

WE BELIEVE - Living our faith boldly makes a difference

WE CHOOSE - To live according to the gospel, which is different from the narrative offered by secular society.

WE AVOID - Each and every activity that separates us from God.

We are about to close this fraternal year and we are getting closer to obtaining the Circle of Honor award from our Supreme Council. We only need 80 more new members to reach our goal. If each Council of the 154 that we have in Arizona, recruited at least one new member, we would have the necessary new Knights to achieve this prestigious award. It is our great MORAL commitment to honor the legacy of Blessed Father McGivney by growing our Order by offering every Catholic man the opportunity to join the Knights of Columbus to support our Families, Parishes, Communities and at the same time, help them grow spiritually with Jesus Christ. and under the maternal mantle of Our Lady Santa María de Guadalupe.

Remember, **WE ARE CATHOLIC MEN CHANGING LIVES**.

Vivat Jesus!

Luis L. Leyva

Hispanic Growth and Membership Coordinator



K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



Coordinador de Membrecía Hispana - Luis L. Leyva

June 2021 Page 10

Hemos sido llamados a evangelizar...

Marcos 3:13-15 “Jesús subió al monte y llamó a los que él quiso, y se reunieron con él. Así instituyó a los Doce (a los que llamó también apóstoles), para que estuvieran con él y para enviarlos a predicar, dándoles poder para echar demonios.”

Ahora que ya podemos ver el fin de nuestro año fraternal, una vez más les comparto estos versículos del evangelio de San Marcos, donde se nos recuerda como Jesús nos llama a seguirlo, convertirnos en sus discípulos e ir por el mundo a propagar la buena nueva, su **EVANGELIO**. Estamos comprometidos como hombres católicos a **EVANGELIZAR**.

Debemos, como hombres católicos extender este llamado a otros hombres católicos dentro de nuestras comunidades de adoración (nuestras parroquias) e invitarlos a ser parte crucial de este mandamiento de Cristo Jesús. Es importante que comuniquemos, que no estamos en busca de hombres santos o justos. El Señor busco pecadores que necesitaban ser sanados por su gracia.

Una vez más, les invito a ayudar a crecer nuestra fe cristiana llevando el evangelio por medio de nuestra orden de Caballeros de Colon, **VAMOS INVITANDO A TODO HOMBRE CATOLICO A UNIRSE A NUESTRA FRATERNIDAD**.

HERMANOS LOS CABALLEROS DE COLON:

CREEMOS – Que vivir nuestra fe con valentía hace una diferencia

ELIGIMOS – Vivir de acuerdo con el evangelio, que es diferente a la narrativa que ofrece la sociedad secular.

EVITAMOS – Todas y cada una de las actividades que nos separan de Dios.

Hermanos, una vez más les invito a cada uno de ustedes a reclutar a un hombre católico a formar parte de nuestra Orden. Estamos por cerrar este año fraternal y nos acercamos nuevamente a obtener el premio de Circulo de Honor de parte de nuestro Consejo Supremo. Nos encontramos a solo 80 nuevos miembros más para llegar a nuestra meta. Si cada Consejo de los 154 que tenemos en Arizona, reclutara por lo menos un miembro nuevo, tendríamos los necesarios nuevos Caballeros para alcanzar este prestigiado reconocimiento. Es nuestro gran compromiso MORAL de honrar el legado del Beato Padre McGivney haciendo crecer nuestra Orden ofreciéndole a **todo hombre católico** la oportunidad de unirse a Caballeros de Colon para apoyar a nuestras Familia, Parroquias, Comunidades y a la vez, ayudarles a crecer espiritualmente con Cristo Jesús y bajo el manto maternal de Santa María de Guadalupe.

Recuerden, que **SOMOS HOMBRES CATOLICOS CAMBIANDO VIDAS**.

Vivat Jesús!

Luis L. Leyva

Coordinador Crecimiento y Membresía Hispana



June 3rd, 2021 – Feast of Corpus Christi

Corpus Christi 2021 Corpus Christi for the year 2021 is celebrated/ observed on **Thursday, June 3rd**. Corpus Christi is a feast that is celebrated on the second Thursday after Whit Sunday. It is a Catholic holiday that celebrates the presence of the body and blood of Jesus Christ through Holy Communion (Eucharist).

June 11th, 2021– Sacred Heart of Jesus

The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a widely recognized observance in many Christian denominations. It is observed on the Friday nineteen days after Pentecost and celebrates the compassion, suffering and devotion of Christ to humanity.

June 14th, 2021 – Flag Day

Flag Day falls within National Flag Week, a time when Americans reflect on the foundations of the nation's freedom. The flag of the United States represents freedom and has been an enduring symbol of the country's ideals since its early days. During both events, Americans also remember their loyalty to the nation, reaffirm their belief in liberty and justice, and observe the nation's unity.

June 20th, 2021 – Father's Day

Father's Day is observed on the third Sunday of June. It honors all fathers, grandfathers, great-grandfathers, and father figures for their contribution. The Day was created to complement Mother's Day.

June 24th, 2021 – Nativity of St John the Baptist

John the Baptist is a messianic figure described in all four canonical Gospels. He foretold the coming of Jesus Christ thus John the Baptist is commonly referred to as the forerunner or precursor of Jesus. He also baptized Jesus in the River of Jordan.

The feast day of Saint John the Baptist is one of the very few feasts of saints in Christianity that commemorates the anniversary of birth of the saint being honored, as the majority of such holidays commemorate the anniversary of death. It comes three months after the feast of Annunciation and six months before the feast of Christmas.

June 24th, 2021 – Feast of Saint Peter and St Paul

On 29 June, Vatican City celebrates the Feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul as a public holiday. Both the Apostle Peter and the Apostle Paul were martyred in Rome, and today, they are "joint patron saints" of the city of Rome under Roman Catholic tradition. Thus, the two saints are remembered on a single holiday.



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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Family Director – Joseph Shanks - continued

June 2021 Page **12**

June Council Activities

Election of Officers – by June 15th
Report of Officers Chosen #185 – by 6/30
Columbian Award SP-7 – by 6/30
District Organizational Meetings
District Deputy Semi-Annual Report #944 – by 6/30

June Council Planning Ahead Activities

Service Program Personnel Report #365 – by 8/1
Installation of Council Officers
What new programs does your council plan to institute during the upcoming Fraternal Year?

The “New” 2021-2022 Fraternal Planner is available as a PDF at:
[Fraternal Leader Advisory - Archive | Knights of Columbus \(kofc.org\)](#)

Quote for Life

*Today is a good day to have a great day
To smile more and worry less
To be the best version of you
To do more of what makes you happy every day
To be positive and regret nothing
To be humble and work hard
Every day might not be good but
Find something good in every day
Laugh, love, live
Follow your dreams
Believe in yourself
and remember to be
AWESOME!*



K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Ceremonial Chairman – Skip Hopler

June 2021 Page **13**

Year in review. The COVID-19 pandemic had some serious impacts on our ceremonials during this fraternal year, but the Charity, Unity and Fraternity (CUF) degrees continued to be exemplified through online presentations and video feeds, while business meetings and installations were also conducted using online resources.

The most significant impact was the grave concern for the health and safety of our members and their families while attending degrees, meetings and installations. The interim solution was to use the online meeting software programs to conduct business mostly through the use of programs like WebEx and Google Meet.

Use of these programs introduced new challenges. Many of our members were not conversant with the relatively new world of online meeting programs which required more sophisticated computer knowledge and interaction than just checking email. So as we transitioned to the electronic meeting formats we had to provide training in their use and had to do it online. Some made the transition relatively easily but many members were frustrated by the lack of one-on-one in-person training.

Another important impact was the absence of face-to-face meetings and the in-person social interaction and fraternity that is so much a part of the Order's culture. Online meetings can be cold and impersonal and are not conducive to growing the family social atmosphere that we want to engender at our meetings.

Lastly, we were challenged to take care of our brothers and their families who were, in essence, quarantined. It became too easy for members to fall by the wayside through lack of communication. Isolation became all too common. Supreme instituted the program "leave no neighbor behind" to encourage us to seek out those brothers and their families who might need help or just need to hear a friendly voice telling them that they were not forgotten during this trying time.

In response to the pandemic restrictions Supreme and our State Council developed alternative plans to preserve our ability to exemplify candidates into the Third Degree. In January 2020, as COVID hit hard, we moved to conduct degrees virtually. On April 14th DD Jim Walsh and his St. Anne's team delivered the first completely online CUF by an Arizona team. Two days later the Supreme Council team conducted its first completely online CUF degree. By September 2020, restrictions eased in the Phoenix and Gallup Diocese to the point of allowing the teams to present the degree from a church or hall but with very strict restrictions on masks, distancing, and sanitizing. Other than the team, only candidates could attend the degree in person. However, most candidates were still participating by joining in online. As the COVID restrictions further eased during 2020 and into 2021, the Tucson, Phoenix and Gallup Dioceses eventually allowed in-person degrees with local restrictions while still supplementing with online participation when possible. That is our current situation.



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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Ceremonial Chairman – Skip Hopler - continued

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Council meetings followed the same restrictions as the degrees and were moved online. Also, Supreme added a required meeting for Officers each month to conduct much of the routine business of the council and prepare a report for the membership meeting. Voting on motions was still reserved for the membership meeting. A new agenda outline was introduced that shortened the meeting to one hour maximum and added a strong recommendation that a social time be added to every membership meeting.

Installations also moved to a virtual platform. Supreme published a guide to conducting installation of Officers online and it was used very successfully.

As the recovery continues, we are currently doing in-person degrees, meetings, installations, but with local restrictions as dictated by Diocesan and Parish guidelines (e.g., masks, distancing, etc.). In addition to the State Regional teams, we are working to build local Council and District teams to support their ceremonial needs to bring in new candidates. Finally, as we find ourselves returning to full-up in person degrees and meetings we are staying within the guidelines that our pastors, bishops and state governments provide for the safe return to normal operations. It is important to note that Supreme is putting a special emphasis on continuing our efforts to keep our meetings short, to the point and then enjoying the fraternal aspects of socializing with our brothers afterwards.

I would like to recognize the tremendous effort of our Regional teams in keeping our degrees relevant and available during this extremely difficult year. The role of the Regional teams is to present semi-monthly online degrees and also to serve as advisors and consultants to local Councils who want to start their own teams. The Regional teams also provide in person degrees on request for the Councils in their area. I would like to recognize and thank DD Jim Walsh for his generous contributions in helping develop the role of a Producer as one of the online Degree team positions. He wrote a very detailed “Producer’s Guide” to describe how to handle online announcements, registration and interactive degree production and execution. He continues to spend hours and hours helping other teams learn to conduct online degrees effectively. I also wish to thank State Treasurer Tom Kato for his technical help in developing online registration forms and poster announcements for the degrees. Finally, we are deeply indebted to the following Regional Team Captains who so diligently and skillfully directed their teams to putting on the high quality CUF degrees online over this past 15 months. They are:

St. Anne's #10540	Fray Garces #3855	Frank Perri #10762	St. Helen's #11738	Yuma District #18	Flagstaff #1229
DD Jim Walsh	GK Eric Barna	FDD Pete Karculias	FDD Len Rheaume	DD Larry Lickfelt	FDD Pete Kloeber

In addition, Hispanic Council Growth Coordinator Luis Leyva has now started 3 Spanish Degree teams and, working with Supreme Rep Marty Izaguirre, has been doing great work providing exemplifications for our Hispanic councils.



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State Ceremonial Chairman – Skip Hopler - continued

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Although we have other less personal alternatives to exemplifying our candidates online, the Regional teams provide an experience of meeting local Arizona Knights whom they will encounter again and again across our jurisdiction. It is a personal touch that bolsters fraternity and our teams do it so well.

Here are the remaining scheduled online CUFs for this fraternal year.

6/12/21	Sat	9:00 AM	#10540
6/19/21	Sat	9:00 AM	#10762
6/28/21	Mon	7:30 PM	TBD

For the month of June, the Honorees will be the brother Knights that were taken from us by the COVID-19 virus this past year. Look online (State website) after June 1 for the citation to be read at your degrees.

Vivat Jesus,

Skip Hopler
Ceremonial Chairman
Arizona State Council
Cell: 602-677-2029
Hm: 623-979-6075

I received this tribute link from USAA and I was impressed with the pages. I thought it was a moving tribute to our fallen brothers in arms. IF you scroll down you will find some very meaningful statistics about our war losses and a great story about the significance of the poppy. Be sure to scroll all the way down to the “Reasons to Remember” section at the bottom of the page.

If you are a USAA member you probably already saw this. In any case I thought it was worth taking the time to say “thanks for your service” to each of you and send this along as I remember all my military friends (alive and deceased) this weekend. May the Lord continue to watch over those men and women who are answering the call to serve today and risking everything as they take our places in the front lines.

https://www.usaa.com/inet/wc/memorial-day?vurl=vurl_memorialday&TXID=EM:TX1:CVAVWN3YVP&emlink=cta1



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Arizona Rosary Celebration 2021, honoring Mary under her title “Our Lady of Sorrows” promises to be a memorable event as we implore Our Mother’s help in interceding for us to overcome and recover from this terrible pandemic. She is the most powerful intercessor we can turn to in this time of need. We are making our plans for both the Tucson and the Phoenix events to be live, enabling us to gather in person to honor and pray to Mary. As the State and local agencies progress toward widespread vaccinations we are very hopeful that this will allow us to safely relax the restrictions now in place and permit us to once again gather in public as God’s people. We will be following the progress closely and keeping everyone informed. The

backup plan is still to carry the Celebration online as we did last year. The important thing to remember is that there will be an Arizona Rosary Celebration in 2021, and we are only deciding on how it will be presented. So put the dates on your calendar, spread the word to everyone you know and help us make this year’s event the most memorable Arizona Rosary Celebration ever.

Here is a review of the info we supplied last month with updates for this month.

Update on “What’s the Plan?”

There are no changes to the schedule for Tucson and Phoenix:

- Saturday, October 16th. The Tucson event will be held in the Diocesan Pastoral Center, under the Diocesan participation and health restrictions in force at the time. The first Committee Chairperson meeting for volunteers will be announced soon.

- Sunday, October 17th. The Phoenix event will be held at the Phoenix Convention Center under the Diocesan participation and health restrictions in force at the time. The first Committee Chairperson meeting was held at the Knights of Columbus Hall (49th and Northern Aves, Glendale) on April 8th. The first Parish Representative meeting will be May 8th at the Diocesan Pastoral Center and the schedule of subsequent meetings will be announced and posted on our web site.

The backup plan will be to broadcast the event online as we did last year. We are also looking at the possibility of providing an online option along with the live presentation so we can continue to have those who cannot attend in person still join us virtually. There is a special meaning to attending this in person so, that is the best option, but, as we have learned from the experiences of the last 12 months, the online option will allow those who are unable to travel a chance to pray with all of us together.

Update on “Who’s the Guest Speaker?”

In a return engagement to our Rosary Celebration, Reverend Wilfred Raymond, CSC, President of Holy Cross Family Ministries, headquartered in Easton, MA, will be our guest speaker. Ordained in 1971, he is celebrating 50 years as a Holy Cross priest this year. Our Lady of Sorrows happens to be a patron of the Congregation of the Holy Cross (CSC) priests and religious so it is especially fitting to have Fr. Willy as our guest speaker.



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Arizona Rosary Celebration – Larry Costanzo PSM

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What to do now.

Bookmark the website www.azrosary.net to get the latest information for this year's celebration and also see pictures from last year's event. You can also download last year's Program Book as a souvenir. The web site is still being updated with this year's info as we conduct our planning meetings so keep checking back for the latest information. You will find venue details, guest speaker info, staff contact info and volunteer opportunities on this website. We need everyone to help us spread the word and share this website address so we can gather as many faithful as we can to Mary as we honor her this year as Our Lady of Sorrows.

Our Program Book is a major source of funding for these events. It is also a beautiful keepsake of the event and a source of information on the businesses that support our efforts. Use it to look up patrons who supply goods or services that you use during the year. Also, we ask that you offer businesses that you frequent the opportunity to advertise with us (as long as they support Catholic values). Hint: download a copy of last year's Program Book to your phone and show prospective advertisers an example of the high quality of our Book. Remind them that the Book will be distributed both in hard copy and online and will reach thousands of Arizonans across the entire State.

Col. Larry Costanzo, USAF (Ret)
Chairman, AZ Rosary Celebration
Former Supreme Master
Knights of Columbus
602-677-7336



K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



Brother Knights,

As our Fraternal year comes to a close, we look back at what accomplishments that were achieved. In spite of restrictions placed upon us due to the pandemic, programs like Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest and Coats for Kids were able to be held and both were successes. As Knights, we are called to find ways in difficult times to not just move forward but to succeed.

Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest

The Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest started in September on the council level and ended on the state level in December. At the state level, we had 7 councils send in 10 entries for judging. Here are list of state winners. All winners received a certificate and gift card for winning their grade level.

Grade	Name	Council	District
8 th	Monica Massell	4208	11
9 th	Sasha Loghe	12164	14
10 th	Garrett Beem	8077	4
11 th	Hannah Lichtenwalter	10540	8
12 th	Sarah Lopez	10540	8

I am looking forward for the Essay Contest to start next fraternal year. I encourage councils to have this program as part of their program guide for the next year. Appoint an Essay Chairman and order the guide when it becomes available in August.

Coats for Kids Program

The Coats for Kids Program was run by John Lohse who works at the Pio Decimo Center with Catholic Community Services in Tucson. John was able to contact social service agencies in the State and establish where the coats were needed the most. He then directed councils looking to direct those resources to where they did the best. This is a report on the program from this year.

- Phoenix Area: 18 prepacks for a total of 216 coats
- Yuma Area: 5 prepacks for a total of 60 coats and \$250 cash donations
- Casa Grande Area: 8 prepacks for a total of 96 coats
- Tucson Area: 6 prepacks for a total of 120 coats
- Total 37 prepacks for a total of 576 coats and \$730 cash donations

Phoenix Area:

- Council #13779 (DGK Hector Camacho) 70 coats to Catholic Community Services Phoenix
- Council #11809 (GK Mike Hug) 12 prepacks to Nadaberg School District
- Council #12856 \$480 Catholic Charities of Phoenix



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Youth Programs – Jeffrey Schneider - continued

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Yuma Area:

- Council #8305 (GK Vince Mayfield) 4 prepacks to Catholic Community Services Yuma
- Council #8306 (DD 18 Larry Lickfelt) 1 prepack to Catholic Community Services Yuma
- Council #14157 (DD Larry Lickfelt) \$250 cash donation to Catholic Community Service Yuma

Casa Grande Area:

- Council #3136 (GK Dave Uribe) 96 coats to St Anthony of Padua

Tucson Area:

- Council #10762 (GK Dan Pinda) 4 prepacks of 96 coats to Casa de los Ninos
- Council #8077 (GK Bobby Nielsen) 2 prepacks to Tucson Pio Decimo Center
- Council #10441 84 Coats to St John's Catholic School, Ochoa Elementary School, and Santa Cruz Catholic School.

I encourage Councils to start planning earlier next fraternal year for this program. Waiting until November to get the coats puts your program behind in distributing them. You should also use the Supreme system to order the coats. John Lohse has agreed to be the Program Director next year. Contact John so he can coordinate where the coats are going. He can also record your councils participation in the program. Let's make the next fraternal year even better! Here is John's contact information.

John Lohse
 Coats for Kids Program Director
jjlohse@comcast.net

Free Throw Championship and Soccer Challenge

5

Due to the restrictions placed upon us, I felt it would not be wise to hold these events this year. Different guidelines for sporting events made it impossible to have a fair event. I know these are popular events and I look forward to being able to have them next year. I will have information about these events shortly and we can plan for successful programs.

Thank you for your participation in Youth Programs and I look forward to successful programs next year.

Fraternally,

Jeffrey Schneider
bronte1@mindspring.com / 520 419-4130



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Raso Insurance Agency

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Dear Brothers,

Just as we see and feel a sense of normality coming back to society as whole, the Agency has some news of our own that is really exciting. Perhaps as soon as July, we will be expanding our product offering. Details will follow shortly, but as I said, it's exciting. We will be taking the idea of "protecting Catholic families" to an entirely different level.

As we all look to the future in some of the most uncertain times in the last 100 years, trust that Supreme has been doing their part to make sure the Knights and our families financial futures are secure. Fr. McGivney would have it no other way.

Reach out to your agents over the next few months and schedule a meeting take advantage of this new opportunity as soon as possible.

Last but not least, the **Raso Riddle of the Month** is: *What Saints Feast Day is celebrated on June 1?* Remember to be one of the first 10 to call 833-732-5632, Ext 3 with the correct answer to win your spouse or significant other this month's prize.

Vivat Jesus,

The Raso Agency

A Prayer for Protection in Time of Pandemic

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith. O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee. Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died. Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure. Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen. Under thy protection we seek refuge, O Holy Mother of God. In our needs, despise not our petitions, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Amen.

Under thy protection we seek refuge, O Holy Mother of God. In our needs, despise not our petitions, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Amen.

Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis