KOCOA

Knights of Columbus of Arizona

October Newsletter 2026-2027

State Deputy

Brothers All,

Arizona Rosary Celebration

I look forward to seeing you all this coming weekend at the Arizona Rosary Celebrations in Tucson and Phoenix. Please wear something (Shirt, Badge, Pin) that identifies you as a Brother Knight. Invite parish members to join you in experiencing this wonderful and prayerful event and to learn about one of the great works of the Knights in Arizona.

Membership Growth

September was another successful month growing the Order in Arizona. Joining Council #8090 at the Arizona State University Newman Center, Council #15704, Picture Rocks, Council #12696 Tucson, Council #3145 Kingman, and Council #14101 Queen Creek have met or exceeded their membership quota. One more council needs only one more member to reach their quota, and many more are right behind. Great work Brothers!

Insurance / Founder's Award

One of the fundamental reasons Blessed McGivney founded the Order was to protect the Widows and Orphans of his flock due to the death of the family breadwinner. The Brother Knights of our Insurance Agency continue that legacy today, enabling you to protect your family.

As you are aware, new this year, to achieve the Founder's Award, there is a requirement that 10% of the Associate Members count on your July Roster (minimum 5, maximum 15) meet with your Field Agent for a financial review. As leaders in our councils, we have an obligation to promote our insurance program. Please encourage your associate members to meet with your Field Agent and set the expectation that new members should benefit from a meeting as well.

State Deputy

To help streamline and simplify Founders Award reporting, Worthy General Agent Nate Raso will now have his Field Agents file The Member/Agent Meeting Report form #11077 at the completion of the review meeting. Grand Knights will receive a copy of the completed form.

RSVP in the Diocese of Phoenix.

We are working with the Diocese of Phoenix to make sure all seminarians have an opportunity to receive support from the Knights. This has not always been the case. We encourage all councils to participate in the RSVP program and to work with

Vocations Director, Jim Pompe - cursillojim@msn.com

and

Beth Kopczyk, Coordinator, Office of Vocations
400 E. Monroe St., Phoenix, AZ 85004
O: (602) 354-2005
bkopczyk@dphx.org

Check in with Jim or Beth before sending support. They will identify a seminarian for you who needs support, and it will help to ensure that each seminarian is supported. As part of this coordination, please fill out the form at the following link each time you send a check to a seminarian. That will help the Diocese to track seminarian funding. https://dphx.jotform.com/form/vocations-donation-form .

In this Newsletter:

First this month is a message form our State Chaplain, Father David commenting on what's important in October.

Following, we have a message from our Regional Growth Specialist Chuck Davlin.

Our Worthy State Membership director Ken Gallagher follows next with a message on membership. Let's keep the momentum going, get membership drives scheduled and on the state calendar and get your online members to a C-U-F Degree!

State Deputy

Following Ken, we have an update from our State Program Director, Ben Jimenez.

Following Programs, we have an important reminder about Safe Environment compliance from Worthy State Advocate Rich Tracy. It is unacceptable that only 38% of our councils are Knights of Columbus Safe Environment compliant. Please work hard to get this important obligation completed as soon as possible. Thank you.

We'll then have a message from State Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation Deacon Bruce Bennett.

We'll wrap up with a Silver Rose Update from Chairman Roger Molieri. Thanks, brother Roger for your 4 years serving as Chairman.

HELP WANTED!

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

Thank you, my Brothers, for all you do in Arizona as *Together, We Serve, United in Love!*

Vivat Jesus!

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

Arizona Brothers All,

Even more important than NFL and College Football this month is the fervor we Knights feel for our Blessed Mother's Rosary and the Saints whose days we celebrate this month. Knights take the lead at the Arizona Rosary Celebrations in both Tucson and Phoenix (imagine the day when we'll have additional ones in Yuma & Flagstaff too!) and no doubt in the hundreds of parish public rosaries across the state.

We also celebrate (among others) the great saints Thérèse of Lisieux, the Guardian Angels, Francis of Assisi, Faustina, John XXIII, John Paul II, the North American Martyrs, Teresa de Ávila, and Ignatius of Antioch (look up his story - amazing!) Of course, we honor Our Lady of the Rosary this month and the Bishops have named October the "Respect Life Month."

We are lifting our prayers up for Pope Leo's recuperation from lung surgery and the many Brother Knights and family-members who need our prayers right now.

May the Saints & Angels intercede for us and for them and let us all follow their splendid example of love for Jesus Christ.

Vivat Jesus! ¡Viva Cristo Rey!

Fr. David Halm, C.S.C.

Regional Growth Specialist

October 2026 – The Month of Discovery

My Brother Knights, let us be inspired by our namesake and “discover or re-discover” why we became and have remained a member of the Knights of Columbus and proclaim that “discovery” to the world around us.

Why did you become a Knight AND why have you **stayed** a Knight?

Was it the opportunity to explore and grow in your Faith through our COR Initiative? The opportunity to gather with other men and, though common effort and even sacrifice, discover the depths and breadth of our Holy Faith?

Was it the obligation to put that Faith into action through our many local and international PROGRAMS as commanded by our Lord and Savior in the Gospel of **Matthew 25:31-46** where Jesus explains that true faith is shown by caring for the vulnerable—feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, welcoming strangers, and visiting the sick or imprisoned. He notes that whatever is done for "the least of these," is done directly for Him?

Or was it **James 2:14-17** where we are told “14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.”?

Maybe it was the opportunity to protect your future and your family through the many **Fraternal Benefits** that our General and Field Agents can provide for us. We not only provide Life Insurance but Long-Term Care and Income Protection policies. We provide investment vehicles what align with our Catholic faith and the teachings of the Church.

Regional Growth Specialist

Which of these reasons is the one that will prompt YOU to invite a friend, a relative, a fellow parishioner or even a complete stranger to join us in our faith formation, our works of mercy, both temporal and spiritual, and the real chance to protect our "widows and orphans" through our many benefits this month, next Week, TOMORROW, **TODAY**?

What will be YOUR reason?

Fraternally,

Chuck Davlin



State Membership Director

Brother Knights,

September was an outstanding month for membership across Arizona. We welcomed **120 new members**, the second-highest total for September in state history and met our quarterly goal for reducing the number of members needed to reach our year-end Circle of Honor goal.

Thank you to every council for your diligence and commitment to recruiting new members. Your work is helping strengthen our councils and expand our service to families and communities across Arizona.

Supreme is currently offering two incentive programs to encourage Knights to go the extra mile in recruiting.

With the **Go for Two More** incentive, members who recruit two men between **September 1 and December 31, 2026**, will be entered into a drawing for a **$2,000 cash prize**. Ten second-place winners will receive a customized Knights-branded football jersey.

Click here to Watch the Supreme Knight's "Go for Two More" message. Grand Knights should also refer to the email sent to them for additional information.

Councils can also take part in the **Join & Serve Challenge**. To qualify, a council must fulfill its entire membership quota by **November 30** and participate in the Food for Families program by donating at least **$500 or 1,000 pounds of food.**

Qualifying councils will receive **eight custom-embroidered Knights of Columbus aprons and eight custom-embroidered Knights of Columbus baseball hats**. Councils that submit photos of their gear in action will also be entered for a chance to win a **$200 gift certificate to Knights Gear**—and, of course, earn bragging rights.

This is a great opportunity to welcome new men into the Knights while making a meaningful difference for families in your community. The more brother Knights we have, the greater impact we can make together.

Please use the Arizona State Council event calendar to list all church drives as well as any parish events that include a membership recruiting component, whether or not you need support from the State Membership team. The calendar is simple to use and takes less than two minutes to complete. Supreme has asked State jurisdictions to collect data on membership recruiting efforts, and adding your events helps Arizona report on that work.

Let's keep the momentum going into November.

It all starts with a simple invitation . . . and then one more.

Vivat Jesus! ¡Viva Cristo Rey!

Ken Gallagher
State Membership Director
12090 N. Thornydale Rd. #110-498
Marana, AZ 85658
520-661-1262
membership@kofc-az.org
www.kofc-az.org
www.kofc.org/join
Knights of Columbus
Arizona
State Council

State Program Director

My Brother Knights,

Please read the FlockNote messages concerning Keep Christ in Christmas and the State Soccer Challenge that were sent out recently for reminders.

Respect Life Month

Each October, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, with the first Sunday of October designated as Respect Life Sunday. This annual observance serves as a reminder of the inherent dignity of every human person and our call to protect and cherish life from conception to natural death.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops provides a variety of free resources each year to assist dioceses, parishes, schools, councils, and families in promoting a culture of life during this special month. These materials offer prayer opportunities, educational content, and ideas for community involvement.

Councils are encouraged to participate in a variety of pro-life activities and programs, including the Novena for Life, Gospel of Life initiatives, prayer services, Holy Hours, rosaries, educational events, support for pregnancy resource centers, and outreach to those most vulnerable in our communities.

Please take advantage of the many online resources available and consider how your council can actively promote the dignity of human life throughout Respect Life Month and beyond. Together, through prayer, education, and charitable action, we can build a stronger culture of life in our parishes and communities.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops provides free, easy-to-use materials each year to help dioceses, parishes, schools, and others highlight the gift of human life during these observances.

CONGRATULATIONS-

July 2026 Family of the Month

The Theodorus Lieshout Family, Our Lady of the Mountains Council #10799, Sierra Vista, AZ.

State Program Director

August 2026 Family of the Month

The Joel Cook Family, Fr. Marcel Salinas Council #11536, Mesa, AZ.

CONGRATULATIONS-

August Program Incentive Winner

Council #8854, St. John the Evangelist, Tucson, AZ, is the winner of a $50 State Council Donation to a charity of their choosing. In August, Council #8854 honored Blessed Michael McGivney by holding a Holy Hour, Novena, and Feast Day Mass. The council also participated in the Bright Futures program, providing new shoes to children from families in need who attend the parish elementary school. Through these acts of faith, charity, and service, Council #8854 continues to exemplify the spirit of Catholic knighthood. Great job, Council #8854, Knights continuing to be Knights!

September Program Incentive Winner

Council #12696, Mother Teresa, Tucson, AZ, is the winner of a $50 State Council Donation to a charity of their choosing. In September, Council #12696 participated in the Helping Hands program by purchasing pajamas for children in need through the Angel Heart Pajama Project. The council also made contributions to the Reachout Women's Center and hosted a successful Catholic Heritage/Octoberfest celebration at Corpus Christi Catholic Church.

The council welcomed their new pastor, Fr. Albert Miranda, and supported his well-attended Installation Celebration by providing dinner and refreshments. Council #12696 also celebrated the Feast Day of St. Augustine at St. Augustine Catholic High School by providing lunch and participating in the day's festivities.

Brother Knights,

You may be aware that the **Form 10784** reporting system has experienced technical difficulties in recent months. The Supreme Office has been looking

State Program Director

into the issue, but unfortunately, a permanent solution has not yet been identified. At this time, it is unclear whether the form will remain in service going forward. However, some councils are still able to successfully submit their reports through the system.

One of our primary goals in the State of Arizona is to track, recognize, and share the outstanding work being accomplished by our councils. I personally read every report submitted and have found them to be an invaluable way to learn about and recognize the charitable efforts, faith-based activities, and community service taking place throughout the state.

Over the past month, many councils have adapted by submitting their monthly activities via email. As your State Program Director, I appreciate these updates, as they allow me to stay informed of your council's progress and continue highlighting your accomplishments. I have also received several inquiries regarding how councils should proceed, and I am grateful for your patience during this time.

We are hopeful that the Supreme Office will soon provide guidance and direction on the future of the reporting process. In the meantime, please continue submitting reports through Form 10784 if your council is able to do so. If not, I ask that you email me any notable council activities, events, and accomplishments at **programs@kofc-az.org** .

Thank you for all that you do in service to your parish, community, and the Order. Your dedication and hard work continue to make a positive impact across Arizona as we serve United in Love.

Vivat Jesus!

¡Viva Cristo Rey!

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

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State Advocate

> **"Protecting children and the vulnerable is part of our founding mission."**
>
> – Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly

Brothers,

Let's talk Safe Environment. As of October 13th, **ONLY 38%** of Councils in Arizona meet KofC Safe Environment requirements

52 Councils, 103 Grand Knights, 80 Program Directors,
72 Family Directors, 69 Community Directors are fully compliant

While this is an improvement over last month,
we STILL need to do better!

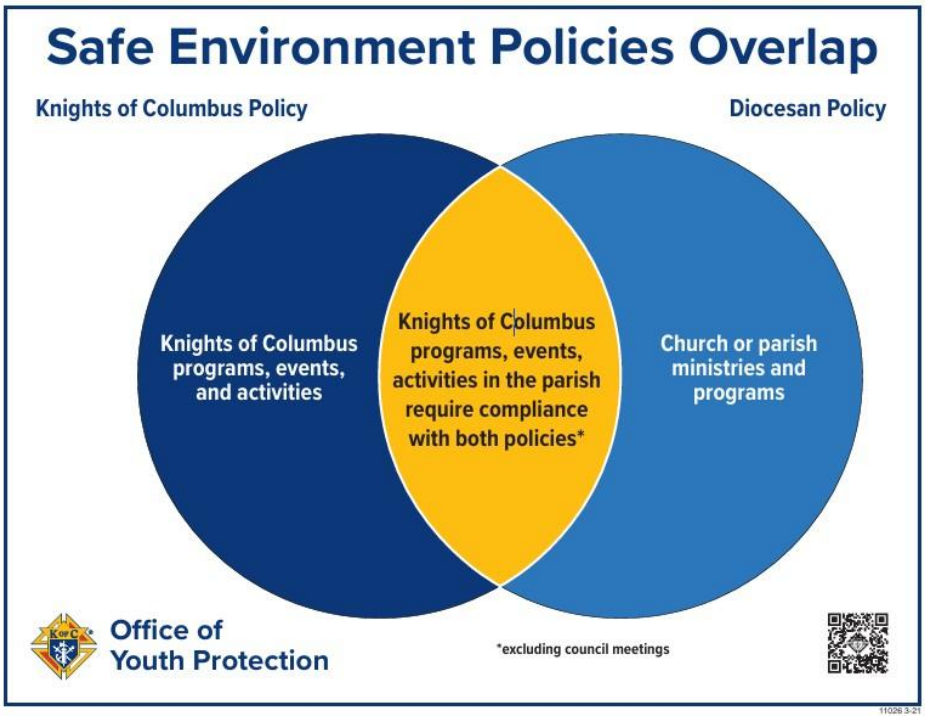
District Deputies and grand knights need to bring their councils into full compliance. Submit your Forms 185/365 designating Brothers to serve in the required roles and ask them to complete training (and background checks where applicable) within 30 days of receiving the email. Information on the Order's Safe Environment program is available here:

https://www.kofc.org/en/safe-environment-program/index.html

To receive credit for the training, you must access it via the email link you will receive from Supreme. If you need to have the invitation email resent, please send your council number, role holder's name, role, email and membership number to OYP@kofc.org.

Also, you must comply with the Safe Environment requirements of your Diocese.

State Advocate



Zero Tolerance

In accordance with the Order's commitment to a Zero Tolerance policy for abuse of minors and vulnerable persons, members who are required by law to register as a sex offender or child offender are ineligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus, and must agree to notify their council's Grand Knight and/or Financial Secretary of any arrest, charge, indictment, guilty plea, criminal conviction, civil judgment, or adverse administrative determination involving either sexual misconduct or an offense against a child or a violent offense. Members must also agree to notify their council's Grand Knight and/or Financial Secretary of any felony conviction that occurs after having been initiated into the Knights of Columbus.

Rich Tracy, Jr
State Advocate
12090 N. Thornydale Rd. #110-498
Marana, AZ 85658
520-904-3175
rich.tracyazkofc@icloud.com
www.kofc-az.org
www.kofc.org/join

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Evangelization and Faith Formation/ Cor

Cor: Strengthening Men, Strengthening the Order

Across the Knights of Columbus, the Cor initiative is helping men grow in faith, friendship, and purpose. Cor, Latin for "heart," reflects its aim: to form men who lead with conviction and care in their families, parishes, and communities.

What makes Cor special is that its impact reaches beyond the pews. Many men today feel isolated, stretched thin, or unsure where to turn for real brotherhood. Cor creates a space for honest conversation, mutual encouragement, and growth in virtue. Catholic men find a deeper connection to their faith, and men of all backgrounds find a community that values integrity, service, and strong character. Those are qualities every family and neighborhood needs more of.

Councils that have embraced Cor are seeing the fruits: stronger bonds among brother Knights, renewed enthusiasm for service, and a natural openness to welcoming new men through the door. When men are formed in the heart, the Order's works of charity, unity, and fraternity grow with them.

Leadership Days Coming Soon for EFF Directors

In the coming months, Leadership Days will be offered for council EFF directors. These gatherings are designed to sharpen your leadership skills and help you build a missionary mindset: learning to invite, engage, and accompany men in a way that draws them into the life of the council and the Church.

Whether you are new to your role or a seasoned director, you will leave with practical tools, fresh ideas, and the encouragement of fellow Knights who share your mission.

Watch for dates and registration details soon and plan to attend!

Evangelization and Faith Formation/ Cor

Thank you for all that you are doing to strengthen the faith of Catholic men and their families. Let us continue to work together, support one another, and most importantly, help men encounter Jesus and grow in their relationship with Him.

God bless each of you and those you love.

Dcn. Bruce Bennett, EdD
AZ State Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation
dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com

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

Deacon Ernie Trujillo
Diocesan EFF Coordinador (Tucson)
deaconernie08@gmail.comPeace,

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

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

Dear Brothers,

With gratitude I thank God for you and all you do for life! The Rose is about to complete the southern route and we have been blessed by Supreme to secure a third Rose. This Rose will run through the South (TUS) 10/2 thru 10/16 and the north (PHX, etc) 10/19 thru 11/2

Please let me know your requested dates at your earliest convenience.

Additionally, our next scheduled northern route will begin on 11/1 and run through 11/21 ending in the White Mountains.

On another note, It has been a pleasure serving as the Silver Rose chair over these 4 + past years. Your commitment and assistance ensuring a seamless transition of the Rose from council to council has been a joy for me to witness. That being said, at the end of this calendar year I will be stepping down as our Silver Rose chair. This has been a wonderful experience. I am truly humbled and appreciate everyone's involvement. Proud to be a Knight of Columbus! Past DD Dan Desjardins will assume Silver Rose responsibilities as we move into 2027. He and I will work together as we move forward.

God bless you!

Vivat Jesus,
SK Roger Molieri
AZ Silver Rose Chairman
AZ Faith Chairman
skrogerm@gmail.com

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

2026-2027 State Leadership Team

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

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

United in Love — Arizona State Pin 26–27

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



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

The Council Success 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.

A successful Council does each of the activities to keep that flywheel going: We Invite men into the Order and then Engage, Motivate, Evangelize and Retain. The areas of focus for each of those activities are around Membership, Programs, EFF/Cor, and Fraternal Benefits.

God is the center of all that we do, others come second, and self, third. Remember, Love **God** with all your heart, soul and mind and love your **neighbor** as **yourself**.