



**Knights of  
Columbus®**  
Arizona  
State Council



## **K O C O A**

### **Knights of Columbus of Arizona**

Quarter 3 - January 2025

Brothers Knights,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!

The holiday season is still upon us and we should be joyful for the light that has come into the world to redeem and save us. Let this joy be reflected in your every day lives, especially now in “snowbird” season. Rather than be angry that that couple or family is sitting in your spot, invite them to conversation and learn more about them. Invite them to one of the upcoming Knights events and get to know them better.

While this is being released a little later than normal for the quarterly newsletter, it is done that way to give some highlights from the Midyear Meeting.

- Cor is expanding! Talk to your pastor about initiating Cor in your parish and ask him what he would like it to look like. It could be bible study (<https://www.kofc.org/en/who-we-are/our-faith/men-of-the-word.html>), it could be devotionals, it could be our new Pilgrim Icon program of the Sacred Heart of Jesus along with the other icons in subsequent months (<https://kofc-az.org/marian-icon-program>).

Lumen Gentium outlined the role of the laity in multiple points and Cor could be the catalyst to help with this

- Bring Christ’s presence into the world through words, deeds, prayer, and daily life
- Share in Christ’s priestly, prophetic, and kingly functions
- Be witnesses and instruments of the Church’s Mission
- Work for the sanctification of the world
- Council participation in filling out the 10784 has been good, but there are still a lot of councils who have not filed 1 report. If you need assistance, ask your District Deputy or go to <https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/faith-in-action-program-forms.html> and click on Watch next to where it says #10784.
- Membership is doing ok but could be better. There are a lot of men on the prospect tab. Have your membership director keep in touch with them in order to get them through a CUF degree and participating in your council events.

State Deputy



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State Deputy

There is a little bit of sad news. Past State Deputy Jaime Perez has passed away. Those who remember Jaime know him for his every present smile and positive attitude. He spent his recent years in Florida but came to the Arizona Rosary Celebration and State Conventions. He will be greatly missed.

Part of the message from the state convention was Listen. Pray. Act.

Listen to what is being told to you from Holy Spirit. That means you must clear out your ears and actively listen.

Once you hear the call, pray about what is being told to you.

Act. Act expediently on it.

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!

May you and your families have a very Blessed Advent and Very Merry Christmas!  
Vivat Jesus!

**Thomas Kato**  
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Brother Knights,

Every 25 years we celebrate a Holy Year, or Jubilee, in the Church (and sometimes in between, such as the “Year of Mercy” in 2016). This is an ancient tradition in which we celebrate being God’s people and receive and give mercy and forgiveness in extraordinary ways.

In addition to the sacraments and works of mercy, one of the special ways that we Catholics mark the Jubilee Year is through a pilgrimage. Historically this required a trip to Rome, to pass through St. Peter’s Holy Doors. You have probably seen an image or video of Pope Francis opening these doors on Christmas Eve.

I know that various dioceses and parishes are preparing Pilgrimages to Rome this year (others of us will be heading to the “Vatican of the Midwest” at Notre Dame, Indiana...) but there are also opportunities to make pilgrimages right here in Arizona.

Each of our Arizona Dioceses have declared certain churches to be “Pilgrimage Sites” and I hope that your Councils and Families will consider planning a visit. A plenary indulgence is available, as is a wonderful chance for fraternity.

### **Tucson**

St. Augustine Cathedral, Tucson

### **Phoenix**

Ss. Simon & Jude Cathedral, Phoenix

St. Anthony, Sacaton

St. Mary’s Basilica, Phoenix

State Chaplain



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St. Mary, Kingman  
Chapel of the Holy Cross, Sedona  
Sacred Heart, Prescott

### **Gallup**

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Holbrook  
Mary, Mother of Mankind, St. Michaels  
St. Rita, Show Low

*The family that prays together, stays together. Works for Councils too!*  
Vivat Jesus!

Fr. David Halm, C.S.C.  
State Chaplain

State Chaplain



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Happy New Year Brothers!

January is a time for a new beginning. I would like to suggest we see how we can support other ministries that are happening in our Church. The Christmas season has been celebrated and believe it or not, in less than 2 month we will be entering the season of Lent. Here are ways we can assist two ministries that most parishes support. The first is the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA/RCIA); The second the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SVdP). Many are you are familiar with these two ministries, what follows is a brief summary of how they work and some suggestions on how Knights can support them

### **The stages of the OCIA**

**Inquiry:** the initial period before a man or women decide to enter the Catholic Church. They are asking questions and checking it out but aren't yet ready to commit. Knights and their wives can make themselves available to answer questions, invite them to attend Mass with them.

**Catechumenate:** those who decide to enter the Church and are being trained for a life in Christ are called catechumens, an ancient name from the early Church. In this stage, they are developing their faith and are being "catechized"—learning catechism, or the basic points about Catholic faith and life. Knights can pray for them specifically anytime they are together, provide prayer materials, invite the male catechumens to attend a Cor dialog.

**Purification and preparation:** The Church will help the catechumens to focus and intensify their faith as they prepare them to commit their life to Christ and be received into the Church at Easter. The RCIA process has a beautiful series of Gospel-based meditations during Lent, which is the time frame of this period. This might be a good time for the Knights to give them a bible and/or a rosary

**Initiation is the culmination of the whole process.** The catechumens are received into the Church during the Easter Vigil Mass, where they receive the sacraments of initiation: baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist. The council could take the lead on providing a reception afterwards.



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State Treasurer

**Mystagogy:** after reception into the Church at Easter, this period lets you reflect and learn more about the mysteries of the Mass and the Sacraments that you now participate in fully. The knights can continue to provide support and materials for our new Brothers and Sisters.

Make sure you talk to your Pastor, and get his permission before you directly involve you council in the OCIA.

**SVdP (St. Vincent DePaul)**

SVdP volunteers are know as Vincentians. They meet with clients we call friends. There biggest missions is to do what they can to prevent homelessness and to assist the homeless. Cost of living increases and inflation are pushing many families over the brink. In 2023 alone, 653,000 Americans experienced homeless. Families that live paycheck to paycheck can be push into homelessness by a major car repair, accident, or illness. Knights can assist certainly by volunteering as a Vincentian. However, often they can help by providing assistance to the friends identified by SVdP. Perhaps helping a friend to move to a new apartment in town. If a Knight has mechanical skills, they may be able to make a repair to a vehicle that is unaffordable otherwise. Maybe they can help a friend by minor repairs to a home, leaking faucets or bathroom fixtures.

**Lawrence A. Powers**

State Treasurer  
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**Cor-Exists**



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## **Strengthening Catholic Men to Be Disciples of Christ**

In today's world, the need for strong, faithful men is more critical than ever. Families need husbands and fathers who are grounded in virtue, committed to their faith, and dedicated to leading their families toward holiness. The world needs courageous witnesses to Jesus Christ, men who will stand firm in their faith, boldly sharing the love and truth of the Gospel. Cor exists to meet this pressing need by forming and strengthening Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples.

Through Cor, men are invited into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity. The mission is simple yet profound: to help men grow as disciples of Christ, becoming the men, husbands, and fathers God is calling them to be. The path to this transformation is built upon a strong foundation of prayer, sound Catholic formation, and a supportive brotherhood. These elements are the key to empowering men to live out their faith courageously and authentically in every area of their lives.

It is the mandate of every Catholic man to bring the love of Jesus Christ to a broken world. However, this requires proactive investment in one's own spiritual growth and the willingness to stand alongside other men in a dynamic brotherhood that encourages, supports, and strengthens them. In this context, Cor provides a powerful tool for ongoing faith formation. By sharpening one another through prayer, discussion, and study, Catholic men are formed to live their faith with integrity and zeal. Whether they are single, married, or fathers, Cor is a place where men can grow in their commitment to Christ and their mission as leaders in their homes, parishes, and communities.

While the mission of Cor is rooted in Catholic tradition, it is open to all men, regardless of their faith background. The Cor Dialog sessions are an opportunity for men of any faith to come together to

Cor Evangelization and Faith Formation





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reflect on the deeper questions of life and explore the call to live in alignment with their highest values. These dialogues provide a welcoming and non-judgmental space to discuss faith, virtue, and the call to holiness in today's world.

As Catholic men, it is essential to remain focused on the centrality of Jesus Christ in our lives. Through Cor, men are invited into this transformative process of formation that shapes them into bold and courageous witnesses to Christ. In a society often disconnected from faith, the role of the Catholic man as a witness and servant of Christ is essential. It is through ongoing faith formation and the support of a brotherhood that Catholic men can rise to this challenge.

Men, now is the time to answer the call. Through prayer, formation, and fraternity, Cor equips men to live out their mission as disciples of Jesus Christ, both in their families and in the world. Together, we can refocus our hearts on Christ, grow in virtue, and become the strong, courageous witnesses the world needs.

Is your council participating in the Cor process? If not, or your council needs some help, send me an email and we can connect.

May God bless you and those you love.

Dcn. Bruce Bennett, Ed.D,

AZ State Evangelization and Faith Director

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Cor\Evangelization and Faith Formation





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## Happy New Year!!!

Brothers All,

On behalf of my wife Monica and myself, we want to wish you all a Blessed, Safe, Healthy, and Happy New Year!!

In December, your councils continued our Membership Momentum that has been building since July. At the mid-year point, we are on pace to eclipse our new membership intake from last year, and if our numbers continue trending this way, we will have one of the most successful recruiting years in the history of the AZ Knights of Columbus!!

We are still tabulating the numbers for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter, and those results, along with our Membership Recruiting Award Winners, will be published in next month's Newsletter.

### **Stock Up Now!!**

Now's the time to refresh your stock of recruiting materials. Please take a few minutes to inventory your current materials, discard any out-dated brochures, and order replacements. Most brochures are FREE (aside from a few dollars for shipping). Below are some of the most commonly used pamphlets and handouts. They can be ordered using the Officers Online website. Please ask your District Deputy or myself if you need assistance in ordering.

- Delta Church Drive Kit (English+Spanish)
- Point the World to Christ #11586 (English+Spanish)
- Fraternal Benefits Card #11730(S) (English+Spanish)
- Faith in Action Booklets # 10831(S) (English+Spanish) \$0.46 Each
- Blessed McGivney Prayer Cards #10502(S) (English+Spanish) \$2.63 for 100 Cards

### **New Year's Resolution For Every Council!!**

As we embark on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of the Fraternal Year, I would like to challenge every council in the State of Arizona to schedule a Church Membership Drive between now and the the AZ State Convention in early May. Church Drives continue to be



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Membership Director

the most effective way for councils to bolster their membership in a very short period of time. As a state, we have tremendous potential to attract new members during Church Drives, but unfortunately only a very small percentage of our councils are using this tool. Please feel free to contact me if you need assistance in setting up a drive at your parish. The State Team is here to help!!

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

[www.kofc-az.org/events-calendar](http://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**

Best of luck during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of the Fraternal Year! God Bless!

Vivat Jesus! Viva Cristo Rey!

**Dan Kudulis**  
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Here are the January Ads – Try to get them on your Facebook Site, Web site, bulletins, and/or bulletin boards. Let’s give the gift of Membership to all eligible Catholic men!

**Accomplish your goals this year!**

- Lose 10 pounds
- Pray the Rosary
- Be more charitable
- Become closer to Jesus
- Help others
- Clean the garage
- Paint the house

**Join the Knights of Columbus!**

**Arizona Knights of Columbus**

Knights of Columbus  
One year FREE  
online membership  
[www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus)  
Promo Code:  
BlessedMcGivney

<http://www.kofc-az.org>  
<https://www.facebook.com/azknightsocolumbus>



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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

### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter-Councils

#### ***\$200 for Coats for Kids***

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

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter-Councils

#### ***\$300 for Sleep in Heavenly Peace***

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

### 3<sup>rd</sup> 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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Program Director

Brothers Knights,

Thank you to all who attended the Mid-Year, it was great to see all of you again. We are excited for the second half of the Fraternal year. So many Councils are engaged in promoting our Faith in Action Programs. This is evident in your successes in 2024. Your continual dedication to your parishes and communities is overwhelming. I look forward to sharing your success stories in May at the State Convention.

Congratulations **Holy Family, Council #11675**, Avondale, AZ! They are the December winner incentive for a \$100 St. Joseph Youth Camp donation. They along with 14 councils participated in the **Family Program, Keep Christ in Christmas**. Brothers, this is the highest participation for the monthly incentive ever! Council 11675 participated in the Poster Contest and had 115 student entries across 5 age groups. This is outstanding work and shows your success in promoting the contest.

January is **Life** Month. Councils that participate in any Life program, Ultrasound, ASAP, March for Life, and Novena for Life, etc., will qualify for the \$200 RSVP donation. Participation is expected to be high for January, please send in your 10784s!

Thank you to the councils that sent in their 10784s. In December, **399** forms were received. This is outstanding, brothers! 86 of them were Family Programs.

July Water Drive Building the Domestic Church Kiosk  
**#9446 St. Helen's, Mesa**

Aug McGivney Holy Hour Global Wheelchair \$150 Donation  
**#18215 Blessed Francis Jordan, Tucson**

Sept. Food for Families Coats for Kids \$250 Donation  
**#8077, Roy Champeau, Tucson**

Oct. Life – Silver Rose \$100 Ultrasound Initiative donation  
**#11738, St. Helen's, Glendale**





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Program Director

Nov. Into the Breach Build a Bed \$250 Donation  
#11440 Fr. William Reid, Peoria

Dec. KCIC Poster Contest St. Joseph's Youth Camp \$100 Donation  
#11675, Holy Family, Avondale

Thank you to Youth Director/District Deputy, Jeff Schneider for your work in the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest. Every year your team selects the District winners for Supreme. Last year we had a national winner from Mesa.

**Reminders:**

**District Deputies**, please send me your KCIC/Poster contest winners by January 31 for State judging. The state winners will be sent to Supreme in early February.

Grand Knights and Council Program Directors start planning ahead with your upcoming programs. Free Throw competitions should be completed by late January and early February The state championship will be in March.

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. (bryant.sayers@gmail.com)

And may I mention again, **Form 10784!** Send them in, please. [Form Invitation \(kofc.org\)](http://kofc.org)

**Benjamin Jimenez**

State Program Director  
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We are Very Excited to announce that the 4th Annual Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Men's Conference will be held on Saturday, March 15th at our parish hall in Miami, AZ. This year's guest speaker is internationally renowned, Fr. Donald Calloway. Fr. Donald has a very moving conversion story, and is the author of 15 books, including *Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father*. He is a very passionate conference speaker on topics such as Divine Mercy, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. Joseph. presentations to men seeking to improve their relationship with Jesus Christ and His church. He is also a professional surfer. To learn more about him please visit [fathercalloway.com](http://fathercalloway.com).

Seating is Limited. For your convenience we now offer online registration for the men's conference. You can register here: [Buy Ticket](#) or scan the QR code on the flyer (below).

This is BIG NEWS for the Catholic men in our part of the state, and it will certainly be an amazing men's conference we do not want any man to miss! Please share the attached pdf flyer with your parish office, men's groups, friends, family and anyone else you know. Our goal is to have 100+ men at the conference, and by all our efforts as a band of brothers, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are going to do it!

On behalf of the Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish Men's Conference Committee, we sincerely thank you for your support, deep faith, and dedication to spreading the Good News of the Gospel. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Yours in Christ,

Ian Durnan  
Men's Conference Committee  
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# CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

## FR. DONALD CALLOWAY



**PRIEST  
SPEAKER  
AUTHOR  
SURFER**

**Saturday  
March 15, 2025**

8am to 3pm

\$35 Includes Meals

Register Online or

Call 928-473-3568



**Our Lady of the  
Blessed Sacrament Hall  
Miami, AZ**

Special Thanks To:



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SJYC

PO Box 7658

Surprise, Az 85374-0110

4860 Mormon Lake Rd.

Mormon Lake, AZ 86038



January 7, 2025

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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Brothers,

The next scheduled Exemplification of the Fourth Degree will be in Yuma on Saturday, February 8, 2025, hosted by Fray Jose M. Moreno Assembly #20. The ceremonial and the banquet will held be at St John Neumann Parish Hall, 11545 E. 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Yuma, Arizona 85367. One of the top Exemplification Teams in the entire order will present the degree ceremony.

The Class Honoree will be Father John Francis Friel (deceased). Fr Friel was a highly decorated Naval Chaplain, serving in Vietnam as a young priest, Senior Chaplain at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Senior Chaplain at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey and then onto Yuma MCAS to serve as Chaplain for the Marines in Arizona, retiring with the rank of Captain in 1999.

The agenda for this degree is check-in from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM with a start time of 1:00 PM. Following the ceremony please plan to attend the 4:00 PM parish mass at St. John Neumann Catholic Church. After the Exemplification, there will be an opportunity to reenact the Knighting Ceremony with family members for photos. All Present Sir Knights with a uniform are invited to participate in a Callout Honor Guard. This will be followed by a dinner in the parish social hall. If priests and deacons in attendance want to participate in the Liturgy of the Mass, this requires advance approval by sending a request to the District Master. These requests will then be forward to the Pastor for approval to concelebrate. This is an invitation for all Brother Knights and families to enjoy fellowship and build on the Knights of Columbus as the being the largest Catholic Family Fraternal Organization.

This letter, all forms and instructions, and additional information are available on the Master's Fourth Degree Web Site. Go to <https://kofc-az.org/patriotic-degree>

Sincerely and Fraternaly yours,

Michael Paz  
Arizona District Master



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**Arizona State Knights of Columbus**  
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Gilbert, AZ 85233

## 2024-2025 State Leadership Team

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Immediate Past State Deputy	<b>Luigi Baratta</b> 602-326-8511 so.baratta@yahoo.com	Associate State Chaplain	<b>Msgr. Greg Adolf</b>  fr.greg@standrewsv.org
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ProLife Chairman	<b>Dominic Conn</b> 480-203-6315 dconn4@cox.net	EFF Director	<b>Dcn. Bruce Bennett</b> 480-294-0282 dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com
		EFF Chaplain	<b>Fr. Arthur Nave</b>  frnaveaz@gmail.com
General Agent	<b>Nate Raso</b> 801-867-0491 nate.raso@kofc.org	District Master	<b>Michael Paz</b> 602-790-1789 sirknightmichaelpaz@gmail.com
State Executive Secretary	<b>Larry Becker</b> 480-760-5122 ses@kofc-az.org	Executive Secretary to the State Deputy	<b>Rick Garrison</b> 480-522-7064 KofCRick.Garrison@gmail.com

Please note: SJYC New mailing address: SJYC  
PO Box 7658  
Surprise, AZ 85374-9998





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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.

