



**Knights of
Columbus®**
**Arizona
State Council**



Monthly Intention – February
For the New Martyrs
Pope Francis invites prayer “for those around the world who risk their lives for the Gospel, to inspire the Church with their courage and missionary zeal.”



K O C O A

Knights of Columbus of Arizona

February 2024

Brother Knights,

I want to thank you for the first half of the year! Thank you for living your *Faith over Culture* and answering the call to ask men to join the Knights of Columbus, doing programs to support our parishes and pastors, and to bring men more closer to Jesus through Cor!

The state team is looking forward to help you in the second half of the year to assist your council goal of achieving Star Council. This award is for all the hard work you council does throughout the year through membership, programs, and insurance. Let us know how we can assist you in accomplishing this coveted award!

We will be entering the most beautiful season in the liturgical year with Lent and Easter. It is a time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This is a time to increase our self control much like Jesus did during the 40 days in the desert. There are multiple ways to accomplish this:

- Refrain from social media.
- Spend some time in adoration with our Lord
- Contemplate a scripture passage each day
- Donate time at food banks like St. Vincent de Paul
- Pray a rosary with your family for an increase in vocations
- Help your council with Fish Fries or other activities
- Read a book to expand your Catholic faith
- Ask a man to join the Knights of Columbus

Mother Teresa said, “The world is changed by your example, not by your opinion.” Set that example this Lent by doing all of these activities. The only way we change the culture is by living our faith.

Thomas Kato
State Deputy
835 W Warner Rd, #101-411
Gilbert, AZ 85233
480-907-4581
tom.kato.azkofc@gmail.com
www.kofc-az.org



Faith



Family



Community



Life



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CHARITY * UNITY * FRATERNITY * PATRIOTISM

The Official Newsletter of the Arizona State Council

From the State Secretary

Second Half Per Capita Billing: Brothers, The Second Half Per Capita billing was generated on January 10 and has been sent to council Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries. Also send a copy to the District Deputy. Postmark your payment by February 10 to receive the early payment rebate. Remember, Councils must be current on their Per Capita to seat delegates at the State Convention. Thank you to those councils who have already submitted their payment.

Faith in Action Good Friday Family Promotion: As we approach the most sacred times of the year of Lent, Holy Week and Easter, invite your members and fellow parishioners to join you for the Good Friday services at your parish. Bring families into more robust practice and better understanding of our Catholic faith and the Sacred Triduum.

Good Friday is the day when we remember the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave his life for our salvation. It is a day of fasting and abstinence, a day of prayer and reflection, a day of gratitude and love.

Despite Good Friday's central role in the heart of Christianity, attendance at services remains low. In an effort to increase parish attendance and involvement in Good Friday services, councils can conduct a promotional campaign to educate their parishes on the vital importance of Good Friday.

Setting an example for their community, Knights should attend Good Friday services, and actually all the liturgies of the Sacred Triduum; Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil, with their families and work with their pastors to encourage increased parishioner involvement at these liturgies

Your promotional campaign can include the following activities:

- Beginning on Ash Wednesday, promote Good Friday services at Friday Fish Fries and other parish and council meetings and events throughout the Lenten season. Distribute flyers and posters in the parish and surrounding areas and use social media and other platforms to spread the word.
- Ask council members to take direct action and encourage their family and friends to attend Good Friday services. Consider providing council members and the parish community a copy of **Christ: Lord and Savior**, a booklet that helps contemplate who Jesus is and the sacrifices he made for us.
- Request the contact information for elderly, sick or non-driving parishioners from your pastor and assist them in attending the Good Friday services. Offer transportation and companionship to anyone who needs it.
- Prominently display the promotional Horizontal Poster or Vertical Poster in your parish and council meeting location.
- Explain the central nature of Good Friday in your council's bulletin announcements and post articles on your council website and social media pages.

By attending the Good Friday services and supporting the promotional campaign, we will not only deepen our own faith, but also follow the example of our founder, Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney, who was a man of prayer and action, and a man who cared for the spiritual and material needs of his flock.

We hope to see you and your family at the Good Friday services, and we thank you for your promotion of the Liturgies of the Sacred Triduum. May God bless you and your loved ones.

For additional information download the program guide sheet at:

<https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/good-friday-family-promotion/10611-good-friday-family-guidesheet.pdf>

<https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/good-friday-family-promotion/10638-good-friday-poster-vertical.pdf>

<https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/good-friday-family-promotion/10573-good-friday-poster-horizontal.pdf>

Kevin McCarthy

State Secretary
835 West Warner Road
#101-411
Gilbert, AZ 85233
602-684-8125
kmccarthy.kofc@gmail.com
www.kofc-az.org



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Brothers,

In Arizona we have 138 Councils, 37 have completed the Safe Environment Program Requirements. As Knights of Columbus, we recognize that all Catholics, including Brother Knights, share the responsibility to protect children and vulnerable persons in and by the Catholic Church. Like the Church, Knights are committed to the protection of children and vulnerable persons. Knowing this, people often ask why every council is not in compliance with Safe Environment Program requirements. When asked this question in July, August, and September I explained that the system Supreme was using was new and we needed to be patient. Then in October, November and December I explained that it was the holidays, but councils were slowly getting it handled. In early January at our Midyear Meeting, it was said that now is the time to get personal. To ask the man that is not in compliance, what needs to happen to complete the training or and or background? We expressed the need to find a new man for the position if that's what was needed. After another month has gone by with little change in the number of compliant councils, it is clear the needed work is not being done. This must change Brothers.

I am asking all councils to make sure your Form 185 and 365 have been submitted to Supreme and all requirements for Safe Environment are completed. I will repeat myself, **in Arizona we have 138 Councils, and 37 have completed the Safe Environment Requirements.** If you are a Council Officer in one of the 101 non-compliant councils, it's time to step up and do what Knights do. Handle the problem. If you feel there are obstacles preventing you from this, contact your District Deputy or myself for assistance. If your council has completed the requirements or you are pending approval, thank you.

All of the requirements and a detailed explanation of the process can be found at:

<https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/safe-environment-program/state-leader-compliance-guide.pdf>

Bobby Nielsen

State Advocate
835 W Warner Rd
Gilbert, AZ 85233
520-349-0728

bnielsen200@gmail.com



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Brothers,

I'm just over 6 months into my tenure as State Warden and I'm enjoying every minute of it! Serving you and the State Council in this role is better than I imagined. I've been asked what I've learned so far. While that list is too long to include here, I will say I've learned there is always something new to learn. Thank you to everyone who has helped me so far.

One of my responsibilities as we approach the State Convention in May is to compile the Necrology List to be read at the Memorial Mass. I will be sending a more formal request in the next few weeks, but please start putting together the names of Brothers who passed away after May 1, 2023. The names of all Brothers passing away through April 30, 2024 will be honored at this year's Memorial Mass. Thank you in advance for your assistance in honoring our deceased Brothers this year.

If I can ever answer any questions or assist you in any way, please email me @ Rich.TracyAZKofC@icloud.com or call me at 520-904-3175.

Vivat Jesus!

Rich

Richard J. Tracy, Jr.

State Warden
835 W. Warner Rd.
#101-411
Gilbert, AZ 85233
Cell: (520) 904-3175
Rich.TracyAZKofC@icloud.com
www.kofc-az.org



Brothers,

It is time to start thinking about the State Awards for your Councils. In previous years the number of applications submitted has not been as many as it should have been. Let us change that this year. There are so many councils doing wonderful projects, it is your job to see that they are recognized for the great things they do.

District Deputies may submit applications for:

- 1) **Council-of-the-Year** - Form COUNCIL-YEAR 23-24
- 2) **Grand-Knight-of-the-Year** - Form GK-YEAR 23-24
- 3) **Raul Navarrete Vocations Award** - Form RAUL-NAV 23-24

Councils may submit applications for:

- 1) **Chaplain of the Year** – Form SBMMA 9/22
- 2) **Family of the Year** – Form 10680 11/22
- 3) **Knight of the Year** – Form KNGT-YEAR 23-24
- 4) **Service Programs** Form STSP 10/23 (**Only ONE Entry Each Category**)
 - a) Faith
 - b) Family
 - c) Community
 - d) Life

All Award Applications can be found on the State Website. Click on the Drop Down Menu **FORMS – STATE FORMS** or the direct link is <https://kofc-az.org/state-forms>

Be sure and read the instruction Sheet carefully before making your submission. This form is marked “**READ THIS FIRST**”

Deadline for submission of applications is MNDAY, APRIL 15, 2024. No application will be accepted after this date.

VERY IMPORTANT: Send application **ONLY** to [KOFCRICK.GARRISON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com). **DO NOT COPY** State Officers, ASO or anyone else, otherwise your application will be rejected.

You may contact me if you have any questions.

Vivat Jesus!

Rick Garrison

Arizona Knights of Columbus

Awards Chairman

480-522-7064

kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com



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Hello Brother Knights of Arizona.

I am Jim Walsh and I am a Knight of Columbus!

From a new member recruiting standpoint, church membership drives work. Please work with your parishes to schedule church membership drives, then add them to the State Events calendar at kofc-az.org/events-calendar. Be sure to list any assistance that the State Officers, District Deputies and State Membership team are able to lend, to make your drive the most successful it can be.

The main reason to invite a Catholic gentleman to join the Knights of Columbus is to help him improve his relationship with God. The best recruitment method is to initiate a conversation, "Hi. What do you know about the Knights of Columbus?"

Most importantly, always be positive and always be inviting.

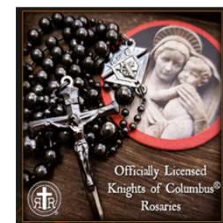
I would like to congratulate Santa Teresita Council, in El Mirage for winning the KofC canopy for the 2nd quarter of the fraternal year. Their canopy will be delivered to them at their first Membership Meeting. There are 2 more canopies available to win this fraternal year.



The winner of the 14' Custom Feather Flag for the second quarter is Saint Francis Xavier Council 13278 in Phoenix. Congratulations, Saint Francis Xavier Council! There are 2 more feather flags available to win this fraternal year.



The Knight who won the Rugged Rosary WWI Battles Beads Rosary for the month of December was Brother Jose Ruiz of Sacred Heart of Jesus Council 17005 in Nogales. There are 6 more rosaries available to win this fraternal year.



Brother Franklin Saavedra of Most Holy Trinity Council 7306 in Phoenix won the Knights of Columbus watch with Silver Accents, Blue Dial and Leather Band. There are 2 more watches available to win this fraternal year.

Men's Watch with Silver Accents, Blue Dial and Leather Band



Congratulations to the following Councils for achieving their membership goals.

Council Number	Council Location	Mem %
14101	Queen Creek	260.00
4737	Avondale	242.86
12708	Phoenix	222.22
12313	Scottsdale	171.43
8854	Tucson	140.00
16277	Chandler	130.00
9446	Mesa	120.00
17036	San Tan Valley	120.00
9287	Phoenix	120.00
12851	Surprise	107.69
10070	Sahuarita	100.00
18215	Tucson	100.00
3121	Chandler	100.00
9801	Winslow	100.00
18065	Coolidge	100.00
7243	Apache Jct	100.00
7306	Phoenix	100.00

Always be positive. Always be inviting. Always be recruiting.

Jim Walsh

State Membership Director
 3762 E Perkinsville St
 Gilbert, AZ 85295
 480-772-3094
 membership@kofc-az.org
 www.kofc-az.org



Knights of Columbus
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Brothers,

As we welcome the new year, first of all, a thank you to all of you who have participated in our Faith in Action Programs and submitted those 10784s. Yes, it is finally catching on! Every month more are submitted, 262 in December alone.

Congratulations to Our Lady of the Rosary, Council #13272 for the 10784's they submitted for the first six months. They led the state with 106 and received an incentive check for \$107.84.

Our monthly program incentives are taking shape, and many councils are participating. Congratulations to Our Lady of Lourdes, Benson, AZ, Council #7521, the winner of December's \$100 St. Joseph's Youth Camp Donation. They participated in the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest, submitted their 10784, and won the drawing.

As I covered at the State Mid-year Meeting, below are the first-half incentive winners and Second Half program incentives.

July - Water Bottle Drive, **#9678 Sun Lakes**, *Building the Domestic Church Kiosk Winner*

August - McGivney Holy Hour, **#16277 Chandler**, *Global Wheelchair Mission Donation Winner*

September – Food for Families, **#5221 Florence**, *\$250 Coats for Kids Winner*

October – 40 Days for Life, **#14089 Marana**, *Sacramental Gifts Winner*

November – Into the Breach Video Series, **#16277 Chandler**, *Special Olympics Donation Winner*

December- Keep Christ in Christmas, **#7521 Benson**, *St. Joseph's Youth Camp Donation Winner*

Second Half Program Incentives 2024:

January – March for Life, ASAP, Novena for Life - ***\$100 Ultrasound Initiative Donation***

February – Pilgrim Icon Program – ***Sacramental Gifts Donation***

March – Good Friday Promotion/Eucharistic Procession - ***\$200 RSVP Donation***

April – Spiritual Reflection – ***Building the Domestic Church Kiosk Donation***

May – Mass for People with Special Needs - ***\$100 St. Joseph's Youth Camp Donation***

June – Family of the Month - ***\$150 Global Wheelchair Mission Donation***

The participation in January's Life programs is going well. Thank you, Councils who attended the Right, to Life March in Tucson and those who are contributing to ASAP. Make sure to get those 10784s in for the Ultrasound donation incentive.

Planning ahead, follow the Program of the Month guide to plan your program participation. Many activities are happening now with Life programs and the Free Throw Championship.

Plan now on contacting Bryant Sayers if you would like to have the Pilgrim Icon Program for February. bryant.sayers@gmail.com

Meet now with your pastors to arrange a Good Friday Promotion and a Eucharistic Procession for Holy Thursday in March. Arrange with your Pastor/Chaplain to host a Spiritual Reflection retreat in April. Remember to advertise and invite the parish.

You do not have to follow the guide. Do what works for your council! Many are doing these programs every month, Into the Breach, Rosary Program, and Holy Hours, for example. Community Programs are a huge monthly council favorite. Thank you, brothers, for your continual support with Food for Families.

Please remember to copy me when you submit your 10784s. programs@kofc-az.org

Thank you, Brother Knights, may your councils prosper this spring.

Vivat Jesus!

Benjamin Jimenez

Arizona Knights of Columbus

State Program Director

520-904-0524

bidodgblue@gmail.com



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COR Program

Cor ad cor liquitor

Heart speaks to heart.

Brothers,

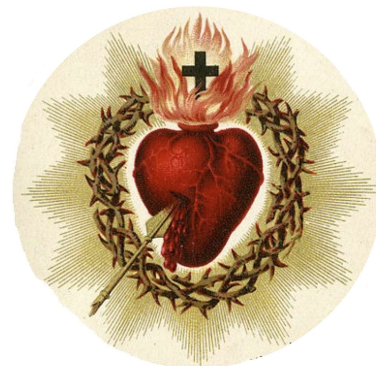
Start Cor Dialogs at your parish. With the permission of your pastor you will be helping them to save souls. Cor Dialogs are designed to bring men of the parish together to work on building up their relationship with God and each other.

Please consider starting these Cor Dialogs and invite me to your gatherings. Go to kofc.org/cor for all the information you need to establish Cor at your parish.

Dcn. Bruce Bennett, Ed.D

dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com

<https://www.kofc.org/en/who-we-are/our-faith/cor.html>



Brother Knights,

There is a campaign by the pro-abortion supporters to gather signatures so that they can put an extreme abortion amendment on the ballot of the 2024 Arizona elections. The abortion amendment is not as advertised. It is an extreme proposition that greatly expands abortion at the cost of the basic health and safety of girls and women. **It Goes Too Far**. The proposed abortion amendment:

- Allows abortions up to the moment of birth
- Forces taxpayers to pay for abortions
- Shuts parents out of their minor daughter's abortion decision
- Removes the required medical doctor, leaving girls and women in the hands of unqualified providers with no training in obstetrics
- Removes safety standards for abortion clinics, leaving women at risk of uterine perforation, infection, hemorrhaging, incomplete abortions, and infertility

This is similar to the amendment that was passed in Ohio. The Ohio voters were lied to, and most voted for it because they did not know what they were voting for. This included 52% of Catholics in the state.

In Arizona, we have a grassroots movement by pro-life advocates, such ourselves, that are working hard to ensure that this amendment does not make it on the ballot. It is the **Decline To Sign** campaign. You can help by spreading the word through your councils, families, and friends. Tell them to decline to sign their initiative, if approached by the pro-abortion people. You can also talk to your pastor and ask to put flyers in the bulletin and make pulpit announcements. We have brochures, business cards, lawn signs in English and Spanish that I can provide to you.

In doing so, we can take proactive measures to stop this proposed constitutional amendment from reaching the 2024 General Election ballot. It is essential that we act now and not wait until it is too late!

Additional information can be found at: <https://www.itgoestoofar.com/>

This year's **Arizona March For Life** will take place on Friday, March 1, 2024 from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Location is Wesley Bolin Plaza, 1700 W Washington St, Phoenix, AZ. In previous years, the Knights have been huge supporters of the march and we expect that it will be the same this year. If you haven't already done so, organize a bus for your parishioners and encourage all brother Knights, families, and friends to attend. You should also consider participating in the Roses for Life program. All proceeds from the sale of the roses will go directly to local pregnancy centers to help moms in need.

Vivat Jesus!

Nick Gaudio

Arizona Knights of Columbus

AZ State Life Director

480-227-1619

prolife@gaudio.us



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Worthy District Deputy,

This year's State Free Throw Championship will take place on **March 23, 2024, 1:00pm** at the following location:

Notre Dame Preparatory High School

9701 E Bell Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85260

Once you have completed your District Free Throw, please send the winners' score sheets to me. The preferred method is to scan them and email to: kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com

It would be helpful if you make sure the name of each contestant is readable and the Council Number is on each form.

They can also be snail mail (USPS) to:

Knights of Columbus

Rick Garrison
2400 N Bullard Avenue
Apt 1162
Goodyear, AZ 85395

Do not send score sheets with the contestants on the day of the event. They will not be accepted.

Vivat Jesus!

Rick Garrison

Arizona Knights of Columbus

Awards Chairman

480-522-7064

kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com



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Dear Worthy Officers, Sir Knights and Brothers All,

A new year offers a new start and what a start for 2024. This starts with welcoming new Sir Knights, showing our support for Life, and the dedication of a new Church. Yes, the Sir Knights in Arizona have miles of a pro-life march on their shoes and smiles on their faces.

On January 13, 2024, a Fourth Degree Exemplification was held at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Sun City West. Former District Deputy and current Faithful Navigator, Sir Knight Joseph Shanks, an Air Force Veteran, the Class Honoree congratulated a class of 39 Sir Knights. The impression upon the new Sir Knights again was amazing, as one of them came to me saying, "Thank you, I am all fired up". It was also a welcome relief to have young Sir Knights, age 18 and 28 participate in this Patriotic Exemplification. Along with a priest there was also a Sir Knight who is serving our country in the US Air Force and a yet another from the Chandler Police Department.



January 13, 2024, Class of Sir Knights along with Class Honoree, Sir Knight Joseph Shanks. The host assembly, Msgr. Irvin F. Lampe, Assembly 1673 led by FN Joseph Shanks, Former District Deputy, along with the Ladies of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish provided the most inviting evening for the Sir Knights and families.

As a defender of the family, the Knights of Columbus were asked to lead the 51st Annual March for Life in Tucson AZ on January 20th. This event started with Mass for Life celebrated by Bishop Weisenburger following by a march to Holy Hope Catholic Cemetery. Fourteen Sir Knights processed into the church. After mass, the March of Life procession started at the Cathedral and ended at the Holy Hope Catholic Cemetery, approximately a 5-mile march. The Fourth Degree lead the march through the busy streets and intersections of Tucson. Many honked their horns showing their support.



To round out the Month of January was the excitement of dedicating a New Church at St. Benedict Catholic Church in Phoenix. Before the Celebration, Bishop Dolan walked through the column of Sir Knights to thank them for being present. With 17 Sir Knights from around the East Valley, the Knights of Columbus were well represented. It was an honor to be invited to attend the event as a Sir Knight.

The next Fourth Degree Exemplification is scheduled for **May 4, 2024 at St. Bernard of Clairvaux**. The host Assembly, 2374, Our Lady of the Rosary, is excited to be the Host and they look forward to an exciting day of bringing more Sir Knights into the Patriotic Arm of the Knights of Columbus.

GOD BLESS AMERICA AND GOD BLESS THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!

VIVAT JESUS!

Stan Schroeder, PSD

AZ District Master



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**835 W Warner Rd, #101-411
Gilbert, AZ 85233**

2023-2024 State Leadership Team

State Deputy	Tom Kato 480-907-4581 tom.kato.azkofc@gmail.com	State Chaplain	Fr. Greg Adolf fr.greg@standrewsv.org
State Secretary	Kevin McCarthy 602-684-8125 kmccarthy.kofc@gmail.com	State Treasurer	Larry Powers 702-827-8135 larry.powers.azkofc@gmail.com
State Advocate	Bobby Nielsen 520-349-0728 bnielsen200@gmail.com	State Warden	Rich Tracy 520-904-3175 rich.tracyazkofc@icloud.com
Immediate Past State Deputy	Luigi Baratta 602-326-8511 so.baratta@yahoo.com	Evangelization and Faith Formation Chairman	Dcn. Bruce Bennett 480-294-0282 dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com
State Membership Director	Jim Walsh 480-213-8333 membership@kofc-az.org	State Program Director	Ben Jimenez 520-904-4542 programs@kofc-az.org
General Agent	Nate Raso 801-867-0491 nate.raso@kofc.org	District Master	Stan Schroeder 480-926-7785 azdmstan@gmail.com
State Executive Secretary	Larry Becker 480-760-5122 ses@kofc-az.org	Executive Secretary to the State Deputy	Rick Garrison 480-522-7064 azknights@q.com

Send all forms to azknights@q.com and ses@kofc-az.org
DD's - Send expense reports to State Deputy



The Definition of Culture Is:

the customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social group.”

Custom is defined as: "long-established practice considered as unwritten law”

However, culture is not static. It evolves over time and is influenced by various factors such as **politics, media, technology, and globalization**. What was once considered acceptable in a particular culture may no longer be deemed so in another era.

This ever-changing nature of culture highlights the importance of prioritizing faith over culture. Catholicism teaches that our **faith** should shape our actions and worldview, not the other way around. Our faith must take precedence over cultural norms when there is a conflict between the two.

As Knights of Columbus, following Blessed McGivney’s vision, let us ensure that we choose Faith over Culture!

The Complete Knight

God is the center of all that a knight does, his **family** comes second, and self third. God drives all that we do.

In order to be successful, he needs to:

- Recruit
- Engage
- Motivate
- Evangelize
- Retain

The areas of focus are:

- Membership
- Programs
- Cor
- Insurance

