



**Knights of  
Columbus®**

**K O C O A**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA**  
"Protectors of Life"



**State Deputy's Message**

**March 2023**

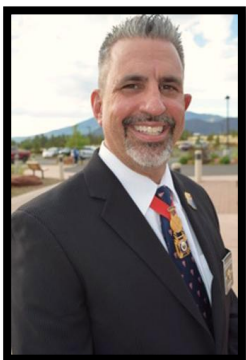
My Brother Knights,

We need to make the most of the time we have. We all fail if we do not. The key today is to remember why we pray, fast, and give alms. In the next several weeks of Lent, instead of thinking only of your own struggles, contemplate about Jesus and His lonely journey through the desert, put yourselves in His shoes. Let us all stand beside Him as He struggles to walk, weak from the lack of food and water. He knew what it meant to face temptation. He can help us overcome our own daily trials. Remember the reason why we all started this journey.

As Knights, we are soldiers of Christ, and we will always be "In Solidarity with our Priests and Bishops". We are so fortunate to have all our Bishops supporting us as we support them. Recently, I attended the Tucson and Phoenix Priest appreciation dinners. Bishop Weisenburger stated, "The Knights have been a part of my life since I was a child. They supported me in the seminary, and throughout my journey as a Priest and Bishop". At the Phoenix Priest appreciation dinner, Bishop Dolan stated "The Knights of Columbus are the backbone of the Catholic faith". Hearing these kind words makes me grateful to be a Catholic. I am also grateful to have Cardinals, Bishops, and Priests represent Jesus at the altar. St. John Paul II said, "There can be no Eucharist without the priesthood, just as there can be no priesthood without the Eucharist". During my speech in Phoenix, I asked all my brothers to seek out young men and women in their Parishes and ask them about vocations. If you know someone thinking about a vocation, please contact your priest and submit their names.

In conclusion, we need to grow the Order. I know some of you are tired of me asking you to recruit, recruit, recruit, but did you know we lost close to 400 Brother Knights last year in Arizona? That is four councils gone! Some of you are tired of doing so much of the work. I do not blame you. But the only way to help with this problem is to recruit more men. Bringing in men with fresh ideas along with their families will change the dynamics of our councils. Remember to recruit a new man all you need to do is to ask. The State Council is always ready to help at your church drives. We ask only for you to schedule them in advance.

Thank you for all your hard work and support.



**Luigi Baratta**  
State Deputy  
PO Box 26272  
Munds Park, AZ 86017  
602-326-8511  
so.baratta@yahoo.com  
www.kofc-az.org



**Knights of  
Columbus®**  
Arizona  
State Council



**Inside this Issue**

State Deputy Message	<a href="#">1</a>
State Membership Director	<a href="#">2</a>
Membership Promotional AD	<a href="#">3</a>
State Program Director	<a href="#">4</a>
State Free Throw	<a href="#">5</a>
State Family Director	<a href="#">6</a>
State Faith Director	<a href="#">10</a>
Arizona District Master	<a href="#">11</a>
Fourth Degree Events	<a href="#">13</a>
Lifetime Award	<a href="#">14</a>
116 <sup>th</sup> State Convention	<a href="#">15</a>
Arizona State Logo	<a href="#">17</a>

O great and glorious God, you imbued your holy priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, with deep priestly virtue and especially with pastoral concern for the poor, the orphan, the widow, for the Christian education of youth, for the protection of the faith of the working man of his day.

Now that his priestly ministry continues to spread to countless millions throughout the world through the efforts and influence of the Order of the Knights of Columbus, which Father McGivney founded, we beseech you, Heavenly Father, to raise your faithful servant, Michael, to the honours of the altar. We ask this favour through our Lord Jesus Christ and His holy mother, Mary and our mother.  
Amen.



**March 2023  
Pope Francis Intention**

**For Victims of Abuse**  
We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.



# K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Membership Director – Keith Baker

March 2023 Page 2

My Brothers,

As we begin our Lenten journey, let us not forget that Lent is not only a time of abstinence but a time to offer ourselves in service to others and to our Church. This is not only in line with our faith, but it is in line with who we are as Brother Knights and to those who should become Brothers of our Order.

Recall the words of our former Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, "It is our moral obligation to ask every Catholic man of age to join the Knights of Columbus." We owe it to ourselves and to our priests to build upon our Order and strengthen our Church with good Catholic men. By doing so, we provide our Councils with men who will continue the legacy of the Knights of Columbus well into the future while filling our Churches with strong Catholic men and their families. There are many ways to ask a Catholic man to join the Order, but it all starts with YOU! You need to initiate the conversation, you need to make the approach, and you can do it! All it takes to start is a smile, a hello, and a handshake.

The month of March is a special month to our Order; it is the month that our Order was chartered by the State of Connecticut as a legal and viable organization. March 29th is Founder's Day and Councils should be scheduling a Church Drive for this month to honor our Founder Blessed Michael McGivney. In addition, Councils conducting Friday Fish Fry's, Lenten Soup Nights, and or Live Stations of the Cross, should seriously consider these scheduled events as membership recruiting opportunities and make sure to have membership materials available along with designated men to attend the event ready to promote the Knights and sign-up candidates online.

Get those Church Drives and CUF Exemplifications on the State Calendar so we at the State Council can support your efforts firsthand. We are here to help, but we must know when you are having your events so we can effectively get a State Officer or State Representative at the event.

Keith A Baker  
Membership Director  
Arizona Knights of Columbus  
[membership@kofc-az.org](mailto:membership@kofc-az.org)  
(480) 213-8333

***Protector of Life***



# K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



### Run these ads in your Church Bulletin

Your decision to join the Knights could define your year. Join Catholic men just like you striving to strengthen their faith, their families, and their communities as members of the Knights of Columbus.

Every Knight makes a difference. Each man brings a unique story, a particular set of skills, and a heart that is ready to serve. We invite you to take this exciting step and join us today. It's an opportunity that could define your year and change your life.

**KofC.org/JoinUs**

Worthy District Deputies and Grand Knights,

It's March Madness Time! As a recruiting incentive, the District Deputy and Grand Knight that bring in the most members from March 1, 2023, to April 18, 2023 (Tax Day) will win \$100 each and a write-up in the KOCO A! This is a great way to really work together for a common goal. As leaders in your districts and councils, it's your job to **MOTIVATE, INSPIRE and EVANGELIZE** your Brother Knights. Please schedule church drives and let me know the dates so we can attend and help recruit. Lent is a great time to recruit, some councils who have fish fry dinners offer discounts on the dinner if they join! Promote the free online membership, schedule your CUF Degree and have fun! I attached our newest membership promo ad, please email your Parish and place it in the church bulletin. If you're having a fish fry, print it out and distribute it.

Good Luck and God Bless,  
Luigi Baratta / State Deputy

**LENT IS A TIME TO GROW STRONGER**

*Stronger in your faith through prayer.  
Stronger in your conviction to Jesus through fasting.  
Stronger in charity through almsgiving.*

*Let the Knights of Columbus help you to grow stronger this Lenten season.*

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






# K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Program Director – Rich Tracy

March 2023 Page 4

Brother Knights,

Can you believe it's already mid-February? We are entering the home stretch of the fraternal year, focusing on recruiting and programs. State Membership Director Keith Baker and his recruiting team are eager to help you meet your membership goals. In December, our State Program Director and District Deputy Tom White stepped down for health reasons; I was honored when State Deputy Luigi appointed me as State Program Director. Over the last few months, I have enjoyed working with Councils around the state and will continue to do so to ensure your Council finishes the fraternal year strong.

There is a new award to recognize your Council Chaplain, please consider nominating your Chaplain for all the great work that he does. Here is the information on the award. STATE BLESSED MICHAEL MCGIVNEY AWARD AND BLESSED MICHAEL MCGIVNEY MEDAL At the 139th Supreme Convention, a resolution was passed entitled Celebrating the Beatification of Blessed Michael McGivney. This resolution instituted both the State Blessed Michael McGivney Award and Blessed Michael McGivney Medal, awarded by the Supreme Council. The inaugural winner of the Blessed McGivney Medal is Fr. William Keller of the Diocese of Gallup, New Mexico.

Every Council can nominate a Council Chaplain to be awarded the State Blessed Michael McGivney Award to be presented at this year's State Convention. The State Council winner will be considered by Supreme for the Blessed Michael McGivney Medal, awarded at the 2023 Supreme Convention. The submission form is available here: <https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/state-blessed-michael-mcgivney-award.pdf>.

The form should include the following:

In less than 250 words, please answer how your chaplain is:

- a teacher of the faith;
- an apostle of Christian family life;
- a devoted parish priest;
- an exemplar of charity;
- a builder of Catholic fraternity;
- role model to your Parish.

The hard part of participating is keeping your response to under 250 words! The completed form should be forwarded to [azknights@q.com](mailto:azknights@q.com) by March 31, 2023. Each submission will be reviewed to determine the winner. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Please contact the State Program Director and Associate if you have any questions or need assistance.

Rich Tracy  
520-904-3175

[AZKofCDD6@icloud.com](mailto:AZKofCDD6@icloud.com)

Ben Jimenez  
520-904-0524

[BJDODGBlue@gmail.com](mailto:BJDODGBlue@gmail.com)

We can also be reached @ [Programs@kofc-az.org](mailto:Programs@kofc-az.org)



# K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



## State Free Throw Championship

March 2023 Page [5](#)

Worthy District Deputies,

This is a reminder the State Free Throw Championship will take place this month.

Location: Notre Dame Preparatory High School

9701 E Bell Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85260

Date: March 25, 2023

Time: 1:00 PM

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](mailto:kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com).

They can also be snail mail (USPS) to:

Knights of Columbus

14175 W Indian School Rd

Suite B4-626

Goodyear, AZ, 85395

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

Thank you.

Vivat Jesus!

Rick Garrison

Knights of Columbus

Executive Secretary to State Deputy

Phone: 480-522-7064



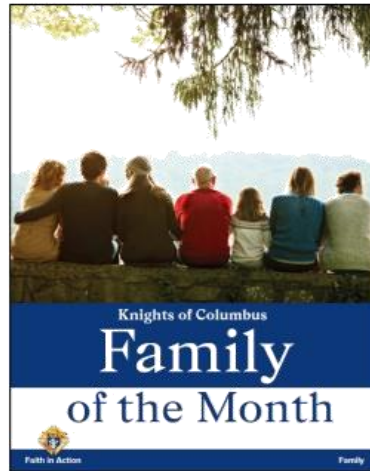
## FAMILY OF THE MONTH JANUARY 2023

This month's winner:

Jurisdiction	Council Number	Nominee Name
Arizona	4584	Edward Graveline

Council Participation List

Jurisdiction	Council Number
AZ	1229
AZ	4584
AZ	9485
AZ	10762
AZ	10832
AZ	12708



Arizona State Council  
Funeral Pall Program

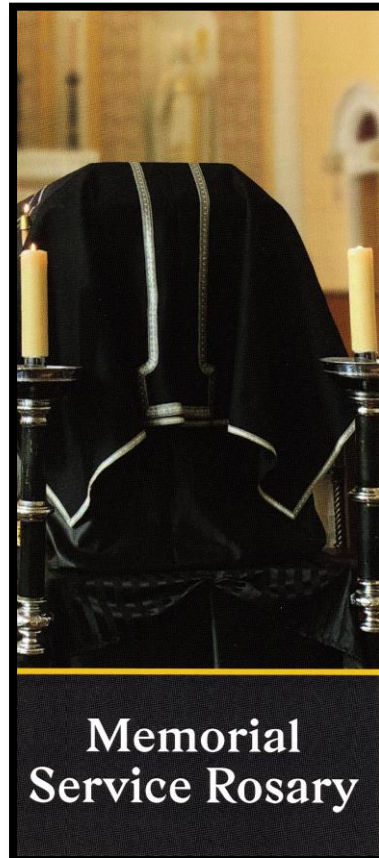


Casket and Urn Funeral Palls are available at no cost for any Knight. They are on a lend and return basis. They can be picked up and returned or shipped and return shipping. (Shipping cost not included)  
For more information call:

SK Jack Ahern

*MagnaliteCatholic.Com*

RELIGIOUS PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS  
121 N. 57th Drive Phoenix, Arizona 85043  
602-269-0009 800-634-0839



Memorial  
Service Rosary

**"New"** Memorial Service Rosary Pamphlet for Grand Knights and Faithful Navigators. Order through supplies online. Product # 11417 dated 9/22.



# K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Family Director – Joseph Shanks

March 2023 Page 7

Knights of Columbus Founders Day is celebrated on March 29 every year. The day is celebrated by the members of the Catholic order known as the Knights of Columbus and individuals and organizations that support or are supported by the Knights. Celebrated across the U.S., the Knights of Columbus Founders Day commemorates when the founder of the organization, Michael J. McGivney, received the charter for the organization. The State of Connecticut granted Father McGivney the charter for his new organization that consisted of him and a small group of laymen, all of whom were Catholic. The organization was founded in New Haven and today is one of the largest Catholic organizations in the world. The organization began as a mutual benefit society for Catholic immigrants in the State of Connecticut that offered financial services and other financial support to its members. Over time, the organization expanded its services into soldiers' welfare during World War I, then into occupational and educational services. The order dedicates itself to the principles that it calls Degrees. These Degrees are patriotism, charity, unity, and fraternity. Among these, charity is considered the most important, and the Knights focus on offering aid to the communities in which they are established. The majority of the charitable work undertaken by the Knights of Columbus includes refugee aid and aid in cases of natural disasters. The Knights also financially support the Catholic church's causes.

## Specific Events Upcoming

### March 2023

This month is traditionally dedicated to the continuation of the Lenten Feast Days and the Month of St. Joseph. In this month there are also special days we celebrate.

**March 17 St. Patrick**

**March 19 Solemnity of Joseph**

[Feast of St. Joseph](#)

**March 29**

[Founders Day](#)

[Knights of Columbus](#)

[Blessed Michael Joseph McGivney](#)

**March 25 Annunciation of the Lord**

## Things to Accomplish

[Council Church Drives – Are you scheduled with your Pastor?](#)

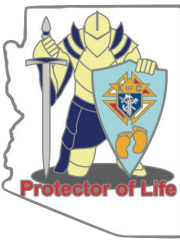
## Plan Ahead Items/Reminders

- Begin preparing State Program Award Forms and Family of the Year Form
- Good Friday Family Promotion
- April 2 Palm Sunday
- April 6 Holy Thursday
- April 7 Good Friday Family Promotion
- April 8 Holy Saturday
- April 9 Easter Sunday
- April 16 Divine Mercy Sunday
  
- Ask someone to join your council



# K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



State Family Director – Joseph Shanks

March 2023 Page 8

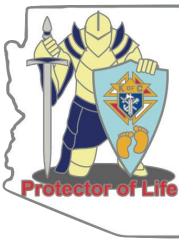
“In the present circumstances, it is quite necessary, in the area of lay activity, the united and organized form of the apostolate be strengthened. In fact, only the pooling of resources is capable of fully achieving all the aims of the modern apostolate and firmly protecting its interests. Here it is important that the apostolate encompass even the common attitudes and social conditions of those for whom it is designed. Otherwise, those engaged in the apostolate are often unable to bear up under pressure of public opinion or of social institutions” (Vatican II, Decree *Apostolicam Actuositatem*, November 18, 1965, no. 18). This kind of apostolate has been carried out since the 19<sup>th</sup> century by the Knights of Columbus, whose founder was Blessed Michael McGivney.

Michael McGivney was beatified on October 31, 2020. The example and the works of this new Blessed are a challenge for us all to evangelize the world, the need for which was recalled by the Second Vatican Council: “Modern conditions demand” an “apostolate of the laity” that “becomes more imperative in view of the fact that many areas of human life have become increasingly autonomous,” which “sometimes involves a degree of departure from the ethical and religious order and a serious danger to Christian life,” it underscored. “There are innumerable opportunities open to the laity for the exercise of their apostolate of evangelization and sanctification. The very testimony of their Christian life and good works done in a supernatural spirit have the power to draw men to belief and to God... However, an apostolate of this kind does not consist only in the witness of one’s way of life; a true apostle looks for opportunities to announce Christ by words addressed either to non-believers with a view to leading them to faith, or to the faithful with a view of instructing, strengthening, and encouraging them to a more fervent life. “*For the charity of Christ impels us*’ (2 Cor. 5:14).” The Lord Himself “renews His invitation to all the laity to come closer to Him every day, recognizing that what is His is also their own... He sends them into every town and place... so that they may show that they are co-workers in the various forms and modes of the apostolate of the Church, which must be constantly adapted to the new needs of our times. Ever productive as they should be in the work of the Lord, they know that their labor in Him is not in vain” (*Apostolicam Actuositatem*, nos. 1,6 and 33).

Let us ask Blessed Michael McGivney to guide us in the service of the Lord and of our brothers.

*From Saint Joseph de Clairval Abbey, February 15, 2023. 21150 Flavigny-sur-Ozerain - France*





### Do They Know

Once we gain enough experience, each of us, God willing, will have to adapt to limitations and changes as we age. It's important our families know our wishes in case they are called to care for us one day. We suggest this information be shared with all family members and Knights:

- Tell family you want to remain a Knight of Columbus and that dues should continue to be paid or a donation made in your name every year.
- Make sure they know your council number and location and who/how to contact your council and assembly if you are 4<sup>th</sup> Degree.
- Keep your council and assembly informed if and when you move or need specialized care. We want to stay in touch to support and pray for you.
- Families must request our services for visitations and funerals.
- Councils regularly pray rosaries at visitations. Assemblies are authorized to conduct guards for 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knights upon request.
- Tell your family what you would like your Knights Council to do in the event of your passing on to your reward. By completing the below form, you tell your family:
  - \* Council and Assembly Contact Info
  - \* Field Agent Contact Info
  - \* Would you like a Rosary, Honor Guard, or both at your visitation/ funeral?
  - \* Special arrangements – do you want to be buried in your old or new regalia, for example?

**Do They Know Card**  
I am a Knight of Columbus.  
Please continue to pay my dues.

Member #: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Council #: \_\_\_\_\_ Council Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Council Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Field Agent Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

Assembly Name, #, and Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Assembly Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

At my passing, please request:

\_\_\_\_\_ Rosary \_\_\_\_\_ Honor Guard \_\_\_\_\_ Prayers \_\_\_\_\_ Notification of Death

Additional Requests: \_\_\_\_\_



# K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



**Silver Rose Chairman – Roger Moleri**

March 2023 Page [10](#)

Brothers All,

I am honored to be your newly appointed Silver Rose chairman for the Knights of Arizona, and thankful to FDD Bob Julien for his outstanding efforts over the last 9 years.

The national 2023 Silver Rose Tour routes have been announced and the dates assigned for Arizona are known. The first arrival of the Silver Rose will be on Sunday May 21st, 2023, and will be transferred to New Mexico on or about June 18th, 2023. The second arrival will be on Sunday October 1st, 2023, and will be transferred to New Mexico on or about Sunday October 29th, 2023. Now is the time to get your councils excited about hosting the Silver Rose and selecting your council's preferred date(s). As many of you are aware, the best dates fill-up quickly.

For more information visit <https://kofc-az.org/silver-rose-program> .

Reach out at your earliest convenience.

Vivat Jesus!

Roger Moleri

Faith Chair

Silver Rose Chair

skrogerm@gmail.com / 602.296.8677



# K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



Dear Worthy Officers, Sir Knights and Brothers All,

As I reflect on the past month, the most notable happening is the announcement of the retirement intention of Supreme Master Dennis Stoddard and the appointment of SK Michael McCusker of Memphis Tennessee as the new Supreme Master. The Sir Knights in Arizona thank Supreme Master Dennis Stoddard for 13 years of leadership and they welcome SK Michael McCusker as the next Supreme Master.



The Arizona Knights of Columbus traditionally holds Priest Appreciation Dinners across Arizona. The Tucson Priest Appreciation Dinner included kind words from Bishop Weisenburger. Bishop Weisenburger acknowledged our unwavering “Solidarity with our Priests and Bishops”. During trying times this sealed the deal with him concerning the Knights of Columbus. The Priest Appreciation Dinner for the Diocese of Phoenix welcomed Priests and three Bishops. Being the first Priest Appreciation Dinner for Bishop Dolan, he was appreciative and enjoyed the evening with Priests and Brother Knights. Bishop Dolan also recognized the unwavering support of the Knights of Columbus.

The Arizona Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus is honored to welcome Father Arthur Nave Jr. as the Arizona District Friar for the Fourth Degree. Father Nave started as a Columbian Squire who became the Chief Squire in Kingman Council’s Squires Circle. He joined the Knights of Columbus in 1999 and became a member of the Fourth Degree in 2000. Father Nave was ordained into Priesthood in June 2008. Father Nave is also the lead Chaplain for the Department of Public Safety. Thus, it is quite fitting to have Father Nave as the Arizona District Friar of the Fourth Degree. Thank you, Father Nave for saying yes to the District Friar position.

Callouts are growing in frequency challenging members to attend Callouts, sometimes two in within a four-hour window. The month of February started with a callout on February 4th to support the World Day of Sick Mass sponsored by the Order of Malta. This was a televised mass with Bishop Dolan as the celebrant. The Arizona Fourth Degree was honored to be part of the mass. This event was followed with another callout four hours later for the Men’s Conference closing mass celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Nevares. These callouts increase our visibility and show the Catholic Community the Knights of Columbus are present within their community. A Sister at one of the callouts had to have a picture taken with the Sir Knights, Sister was all smiles and thanked us for attending.



# K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



## Fourth Degree – Stanley J. Schroeder – District Master

March 2023 Page [12](#)

Being invited to Special events is always an honor for Rosanne and myself. The past four weeks, even with our busy schedule, there were two large events that demonstrate the Fourth Degree's responsibility of honoring others. The Resurrection Assembly 3280 hosted an event "Honoring Those Who Serve". At this event, six individuals were honored for their unwavering commitment serving others. One of which was a 95 year old highly decorated retired Air Force Pilot, Thomas H. Kirk, Jr. who lead a squadron of Dive Bombers during the Vietnam War.

This honoree was shot down over Hanoi, North Vietnam on his 67th mission and held in the harshest captivity known. His message "Never Give Up" is so powerful even in our everyday lives. All six of the honorees had a story so worthy that the audience provided a standing ovation for their service and thank them for everything they have accomplished.

The month of February concluded with a Fourth Degree Exemplification on February 25th in Tucson followed by a callout on February 26th in Phoenix. At every event, the same question is asked, "When and where is the next exemplification". This is evidence the excitement is building and with some follow-up meetings, another exemplification date will likely be announced within the next four weeks.

Looking into the month of March, the Knights of Columbus, thanks to the forethought of District Marshal Michael Paz, has secured a entry spot in the 2023 Phoenix St. Patrick's Parade, Saturday, March 11th. This is the 40th anniversary of the parade. An invitation is being prepared for an Assembly to carry the flags along with strong participation from Knights of Columbus councils.

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

VIVAT JESUS!

Stan Schroeder, PSD

AZ District Master



# KOCCOA

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA




Knights of Columbus



AMERICAN WARRIOR INITIATIVE

**FOURTH DEGREE  
ASSEMBLY 1805  
AMERICAN WARRIOR  
SERVICE DOG DINNER**

American Warrior Initiative  
Providing Education and Service Dogs for  
American Veterans in need



**APRIL 1, 2023**

Reception: 6:00 - 7:00 pm  
Dinner: 7:00 pm

**LOCATION:**

St. Luke Catholic Church, Milligan Centre  
19644 N. 7th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85027

Donation: \$50.00 @ Advance Purchase OR \$55.00 @ At Door  
Please call or contact Sir Knight John McNulty (602) 568-7047

for reservations  
SK Matthew Holguin, FN  
Bishop William Z. Gomes  
Assembly #1805  
(575) 574-7171

Email: mamholgu@yahoo.com





# KO CO A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA

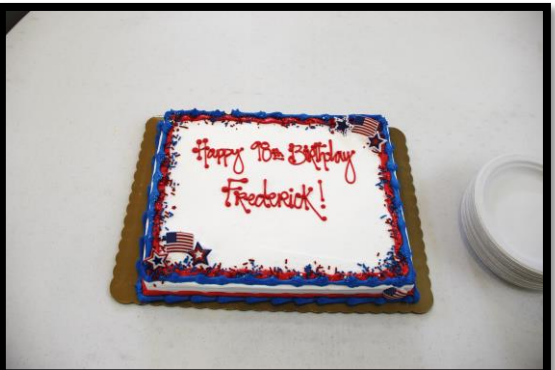


## Fourth Degree – Lifetime Award

March 2023 Page 14

Lifetime award presented to Sir Knight Frederick Peterson on his 98th birthday by current Grand Knight of Council 13779, SK Keith Bowcut on March 2, 2023, at the close of morning Mass. He received an ovation, witnessed by more than 175 Knights and parishioners. Frederick has been a Knight for 55 years. He is a past GK and past FN. WW II Navy Veteran, accomplished boxer and has trained many elite fighters. He is also a master martial artist who has obtained the title of "Soke", which translates to head of the family. This designation allows a martial artist to create their own style. Frederick is an author (The Journey from Orphan to Soke) and continues to serve the parish as a lector Thursday mornings and as assigned at weekend Masses.

SK Roger Molieri  
 AZ State Council Faith Chairman  
 602.296.8677





# K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



## 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Knights of Columbus Arizona State Convention

March 2023 Page [15](#)

Worthy Brother Knights All,

Fr. Louis A. Sigman Council 16277 is pleased to host the 116th Annual Knights of Columbus Arizona State Convention.

This year's convention will be held May 19 and 20, 2023 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Scottsdale resort, located at 5001 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, Arizona, 85250. The 2023 Arizona State Convention theme and logo will be from the State Deputy's State Pin, "Protector of Life".

Hotel reservations can only be made directly with the hotel, either online or by phone. Refer to the Hotel Reservations page for details. Room rates are guaranteed through April 28, 2023, at 5:00 PM and are applicable three days before and three days after the convention based on availability. Reservations made after this date will be accepted on a space-available basis at a non-discounted rate. Breakfast is included with your hotel reservation at no extra charge.

Hospitality Suites are available but limited; these suites may not be booked directly through the hotel. To reserve hospitality suites, contact Larry Becker at 480-760-5122 or [az23kccconvention@gmail.com](mailto:az23kccconvention@gmail.com) for assistance.

Registration for the convention is required for all who attend (**YOU MUST BE A 3RD DEGREE KNIGHT TO ATTEND ANY PORTION OF THE CONVENTION**). In addition, if you are attending the convention as a Delegate or Alternate, your Council must submit the names through an online form by April 2, 2023. The link to the form will be provided in a separate email to Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries.

**IMPORTANT NOTE FOR DELEGATES:** If you are a Delegate or Alternate you still **MUST** register for the Convention in addition to submitting the Delegate form from your Council. Your Council **DOES NOT** register for you!

The preferred method to register for the Convention is through the State Convention section of the State Council's website, where you may pay by credit or debit card online. <https://kofc-az.org/state-convention> If you desire to use this method, please proceed to the website for more instructions, or by mailing in a check.

If registering by mail, refer to the registration page. Fill out the registration form and send the form, along with a check (payable to: Fr. Louis A. Sigman Council 16277, Attention: 2023 State Convention) to:

K of C 2023 Convention  
ATTN: Chris Wrobel  
3091 S Valerie Drive  
Chandler, AZ 85286-0310

All registrations and payments must be received by Friday, April 28, 2023. Registrations received later than this date will be assessed an additional \$10.00 fee for late processing. Late registrations place an additional burden on the host Council and the hotel to ensure that there are sufficient seating and meals for all in attendance. Credit card payments must be made directly on the website.



# K O C O A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF ARIZONA



## 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Knights of Columbus Arizona State Convention

March 2023 Page [16](#)

On Friday, all Bishops, Priests, Council Chaplains and Assembly Friars are invited to take part in the Opening Mass of the convention. Councils and Assemblies are urged to invite your Council Chaplains, Assembly Friars and Parish Priests to attend these events. Councils and Assemblies should reimburse / pay for any expenses incurred by travel, meals and lodging.

Immediately following Friday's State Program Award Dinner there will be "Rat Pack" music under the stars in the Patio Garden area. The attire for both the dinner and dancing is "Rat Pack" attire (50's – 60's Las Vegas Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr. style attire) or Business Casual.

Saturday's "Faith to Foster" Ladies Luncheon will begin at 11:30AM. We are excited about our guest speakers Wendy Esquibel founder of Jose's Closet and Veronica Lopez from Catholic Charities Foster Care Program. In addition, Kate Hursh from Saint Juan Diego and one of her adopted children will share their experience of Foster Care. We are here to acknowledge Foster Families and children, it is important for these families and children to know that are seen, heard, and loved: this is of utmost importance. There will be opportunity to donate items to the chosen charities. In addition, gift baskets will be part of this year's raffle. Proceeds from the raffle will be donated to Jose's Closet and Catholic Charities Foster Care program.

Advertising in the Convention Program is a great way to support convention activities, show support for our State Officers and show solidarity for our Chaplains, Friars, and Priests. We ask all Councils and Assemblies to place an advertisement in the program. Advertising must be submitted no later than Friday April 21, 2023. Please use the "Buy Advertising" section at <https://kofc-az.org/state-convention>.

Vendor Tables: If you are interested in participating as a vendor for the convention, send an email to: [az23kcconvention@gmail.com](mailto:az23kcconvention@gmail.com). As a charity or organization promoting your program, consider hosting a table. There is limited space available, so book early!

If you have any questions regarding the convention registration or website, please contact: If you have any questions regarding the convention registration or website, please contact: [az23kcconvention@gmail.com](mailto:az23kcconvention@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing you in May!

Fraternally Yours,  
Larry Becker, PSD  
Convention Chairman  
Chris Wrobel  
Convention Vice-Chairman & Registration Chairman





**ARIZONA STATE COUNCIL**  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**Contact Information Arizona State Council**



Website: [www.KofC-AZ.org](http://www.KofC-AZ.org)

**State Deputy**

**Luigi Baratta**

Email: [so.baratta@yahoo.com](mailto:so.baratta@yahoo.com)

Phone: 602-326-8511

**Immediate Past State Deputy**

**Mario Vassallo**

Email: [vassallo.mario@gmail.com](mailto:vassallo.mario@gmail.com)

Phone: 520 481 1250

**State Secretary**

**Tom Kato**

Email: [tom.kato.azkofc@gmail.com](mailto:tom.kato.azkofc@gmail.com)

Phone: 480-907-4581

**General Agent**

**Nate Raso, FICF**

Email: [nate.raso@kofc.org](mailto:nate.raso@kofc.org)

Phone: 480 422 8452

**State Treasurer**

**Kevin McCarthy**

Email: [kmccarthy.kofc@gmail.com](mailto:kmccarthy.kofc@gmail.com)

Phone: 602 684 8125

**State Membership Director**

**Keith Baker**

Email: [Membership@kofc-az.org](mailto:Membership@kofc-az.org)

Phone: 480 213 8333

**State Advocate**

**Larry Powers**

Email: [larry.powers.azkofc@gmail.com](mailto:larry.powers.azkofc@gmail.com)

Phone: 702 827 8135

**State Program Director**

**Richard Tracy**

Email: [Programs@kofc-az.org](mailto:Programs@kofc-az.org)

Phone: 520 904-3175

**State Warden**

**Bobby Nielsen**

Email: [bnielsen200@gmail.com](mailto:bnielsen200@gmail.com)

Phone: 520 349 0728

**Executive Secretary of the State  
Deputy**

**Rick Garrison**

Email: [KofCRick@Q.com](mailto:KofCRick@Q.com)

Phone: 480 522 7064

**Hispanic Membership Coordinator**

**Luis Leyva**

Email: [leyva.azkofcd2@gmail.com](mailto:leyva.azkofcd2@gmail.com)

Phone: 520 313 0141

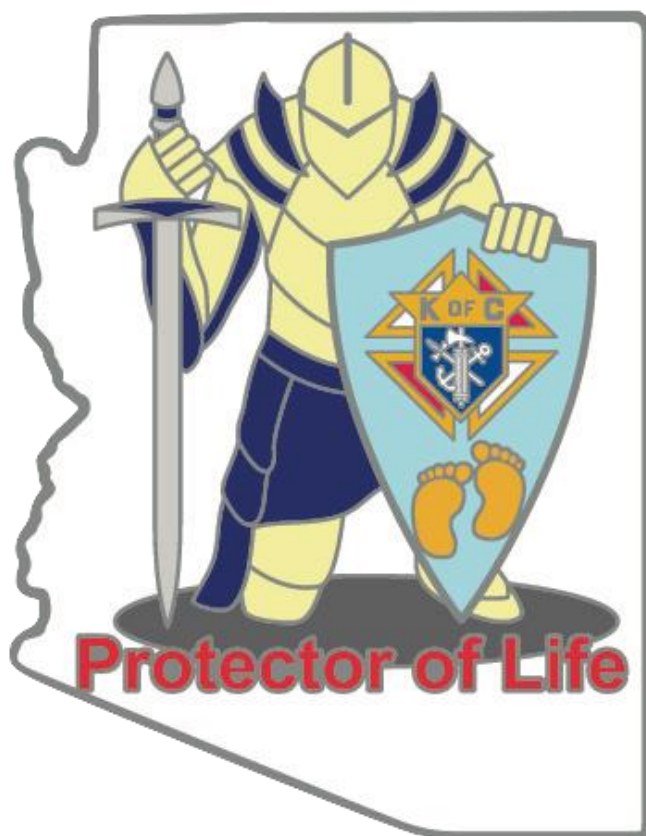
**Executive Secretary to the State  
Council**

**Larry Becker**

Email: [ses@kofc-az.org](mailto:ses@kofc-az.org)

Phone: 480 760 5122

## ARIZONA STATE LOGO 2022-2023



The Arizona Knights of Columbus announced a renewed vigor for defending life at this year's organization meeting.

In honor of the Supreme Court's overturning of Roe vs. Wade and the Knights of Columbus' firm stand for the protection and support of all life from conception to natural death, State Deputy Luigi Baratta announced the creation of a new pin which represents Knights kneeling in prayer. The knight's sword represents the rosary, his shield represents Knights in unity, the baby's feet on the shield represents life, and the white background represents the innocents which Knights will always defend.

"Last year, our state theme was Defender of the Faith," he explained. "This year it is Protector of Life. As Catholics, we must remain steadfast and do all we can to protect life from conception through natural death. We need to encourage men to join us to step into the breach, pray vigilantly, and assist our efforts to help serve our parishes and communities across the great state of Arizona."

In addition to their continued fundraising efforts to help purchase ultrasound machines, the Knights of Columbus have launched a new initiative called the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP). This new initiative significantly enhances the Knights' support for mothers and children and is "a call to action for Knights across the United States and Canada to increase financial support to pregnancy resource centers, maternity homes and other organizations which give direct assistance to new mothers and/or babies."