K O C O A

Knights of Columbus of Arizona

November Newsletter 2026-2027

State Deputy

Greetings Brothers All, and a Happy Thanksgiving!

Midyear Meeting - Save the Date!

Look for the announcement soon for the Midyear Meeting on January 8, 9, 10 (January 8 & 10 for DDs, January 9 for all) to be hosted by Our Lady of the Valley Council #6842 at Our Lady of the Valley church hall 505 N. La Cañada Dr., Green Valley, AZ 85614.

Arizona Rosary Celebration

I want to thank Arizona Rosary Celebration Chairman Greg Mattingly and his team for putting together another fantastic celebration this year. This event is one of the great works of the Arizona Knights of Columbus.

Membership Growth

October was another successful month growing the Order in Arizona. Council #8090 at the Arizona State University Newman Center, Council #14101 Queen Creek, Council #9446 in Mesa, Council #12696 in Tucson, Council #16277 in Chandler, Council #7243 in Apache Junction, Council #5133 in Tucson, Council #15704 in Picture Rocks, Council #1189 in Phoenix, Council #3145 in Kingman, Council #11827 in Chino Valley and Council #9801 in Winslow have met or exceeded their membership quota. One more council needs only one more member to reach their quota, and many more are right behind. Great work Brothers!

Insurance / Founder's Award

As leaders in our councils, we have an obligation to promote our insurance program. Please encourage your existing associate members to meet with your Field Agent and set the expectation that new members should benefit from a meeting as well.

State Deputy

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

In this Newsletter:

First this month is a message form our State Chaplain, Father David Halm.

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

Our Worthy State Secretary Larry Powers is next with a message on Per Capita.

Next, our Worthy State Membership director Ken Gallagher follows with a message on membership. Let's keep the momentum going, get membership drives scheduled and on the state calendar and get your online members to a C-U-F Degree! We have an incentive in place to invite new catholic Gentlemen into the order by the end of December. It's called the **Knights Before Christmas Sweepstakes**. See Ken's article for details!

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

Following Programs, we have an important reminder about Safe Environment compliance from Worthy State Advocate Rich Tracy. It is unacceptable that only 44% of our councils are Knights of Columbus Safe Environment compliant. Please work hard to get this important obligation completed as soon as possible. Thank you.

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

We'll wrap up with a message from Our Worthy District Master, SK Luigi Baratta.

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

Vivat Jesus!

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



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State Chaplain

Brothers All,

This week our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, concluded his apostolic visit to Peru - full of joy and "homecoming", to see his flock in the Diocese of Chiclayo (where he was Bishop from 2015-2023).

Throughout his South American journey, the Pope focused on boldly proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ:

"Today's liturgy invites us to consider the urgent and binding duty of every baptized person to proclaim the Gospel. At the same time, it presents an opportunity to grow in the awareness that all Christians, whether ordained ministers or lay faithful — regardless of the degree of formation we have received in the faith — are missionary disciples. In the Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Nuntiandi, Pope Saint Paul VI recalls that no baptized person can be indifferent to the task of evangelization, given that it is the Church's essential mission, her deepest vocation and her very reason for being."

This seems pretty obvious to us Knights, doesn't it? It's what our Supreme Chaplain and Supreme Knight have been emphasizing these past three years. After all, this was Jesus' Great Commission: His final words to the disciples, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20)

Yet it is clearly necessary that the Holy Father would underline that this is the Church's essential mission since so many in the world today seem confused. Particularly in Peru and Central America there was a time when certain theologians preached a "Liberation Theology" that proposed focusing on politics and economic theory instead of the Gospel. There were even priests who took up arms in the name of earthly revolution. Popes beginning with John Paul II, Benedict XVI, and now Leo XIV have emphasized that only Jesus Christ can bring salvation and liberation.

State Chaplain

While the teachings of the Catholic faith and our religion ought to form our consciences and so instruct our participation in the political realm and marketplace, our deepest calling as Catholics (and thereby Knights of

Columbus) is to be missionaries who announce that Jesus is Risen and what He taught us.

And He teaches as clearly in this Sunday's Gospel (Christ the King) as in any other place how He will judge us at the end of our lives: "whatever you did for one of the least brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' (Matthew 25:40)

While lots of loud voices claim the earthly and material are the realm for revolution, Jesus calls us Knights back to His very most foundational teaching: love one another as I have loved you. (John 13:34–35) And we do this every time we help anyone we meet who is in need, for then we serve Jesus Himself! We see in Blessed Fr. McGivney this deep concern for the poor and the outcast, the widow and orphan.

Pope Leo XIV has a tremendous love for the people of Chiclayo - many who are quite poor - as a shepherd does for his flock or a father his family. It shone through in the many photos of him embracing friends and kids. By all accounts his years living there were ones of being a shepherd - not a political activist. And so, in his "homecoming" trip it makes perfect sense that He would remind everyone that our most important and basic calling is to share the Good News of Salvation through Jesus with everyone we meet… because we can be sure that everyone we meet has need of healing and saving.

Celebrating Christ the King we remember that our King was not powerful in the way Caesar was (John 18:36), nor will He be in our day. Christ our King reigns eternally and remains on the Throne in Heaven. We eagerly await His coming in Glory when "He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away. The one who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." (Revelation 21:4-5)

Happy Thanksgiving! Vivat Jesus! ¡Viva Cristo Rey! **Fr. David Halm, C.S.C.**

Knights of Columbus®
Arizona
State Council

Regional Growth Specialist

November 2026 – the Month of Thanksgiving

My Brother Knights,

What is there about your membership in the Knights of Columbus that YOU are thankful for?

Is it the occasion to grow in your Faith with like-minded men provided by our COR Initiative?

Is it the opportunity to grow in your leadership ability and skills by running an event or program or even being an officer of the Council or a leader in the State?

Is it the chance to make a difference, even a life-changing difference, in the life of another person through our many local and national programs.

Is it the blessing of actually saving a life through our Ultrasound or A.S.A.P. (**A**id and **S**upport **A**fter **P**regnancy) programs?

Is it the gift of independence and freedom we offer through our International Wheelchair Initiative?

Is it the grace of obedience to our Lord to 'feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger and console the sick and the imprisoned' through our Food For Families, Coats for Kids and other Parish and Community outreach projects?

Is it the security you can provide for your wife and children through our many Fraternal Benefits?

Which of these reasons to be Thankful will prompt for YOU to share with another man and his family through membership in our Order this month? Who will **YOU** invite next Week, TOMORROW, **TODAY**?

Fraternally,

Chuck Davlin



Knights of Columbus
Chuck Davlin
Supreme Regional Growth Director
Phone: 203-500-1302
Chuck.Davlin@kofc.org
Supreme Council
https://kofc.org
Serving Our Catholic Communities Since 1882

State Secretary

Happy Thanksgiving Brothers!

Thanks to all the councils that have paid their 1st half per capita. If you haven't paid yet it is not too late. Please send your payment to me. My address is listed on your billing statement. If you need a new statement, please email or call me, larry.powers.azkofc@gmail.com, (702) 827-8135. A Council vote is not required.

We will be billing the second half per capita in January. Billing will be based on the members listed on your roster on January 1, 2027. Please clean up your rosters, so your 2nd half billing from Supreme and State (based on January 1 roster) is updated.

- Get deceased members off your roster.
- Move inactive members to the Affiliate Program

In the Knights of Columbus, an Affiliate Member is a specific administrative classification used for members who have become completely unengaged from their council for an extended period (18 months). This status serves as an organizational tool to help councils manage their rosters and avoid paying unnecessary state and Supreme per capita taxes on members who are no longer active. If you need assistance to do this, reach out to your District Deputy.

- Voluntary Withdrawals: If a member explicitly requests to leave the Order, they cannot be marked as an affiliate; the Financial Secretary must process a standard voluntary withdrawal.

Hardship Extensions: Financial Secretaries can freeze individual per capita overhead using Form 1831 (Relief from Council Dues and Per Capita Taxes) for members facing severe financial or health difficulties.

Vivat Jesus!

Lawrence A Powers
State Secretary
12090 N. Thornydale Rd. #110-498
Marana, AZ 85658
702-827-8135
larry.powers.azkofc@gmail.com
www.kofc-az.org
www.kofc.org/join
Knights of Columbus
Arizona
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State Membership Director

Brother Knights,

As we continue working to grow the Knights of Columbus in Arizona, all councils are encouraged to enter every church drive and other event with a significant membership component on the State Events Calendar. Supreme is asking each jurisdiction to report the number of membership events it conducts. When councils add their events to the calendar, we can report our progress accurately and recognize the work happening throughout our state.

Membership drives are a proven way to invite men to join the Order, and I encourage every council to hold at least one membership drive or event each quarter. A council can host a church drive or set up a recruitment table at a parish event. ***District Deputies should work with their councils to conduct at least one membership drive or event each month in their districts.*** Please order any literature you need from Supreme well before your event, since materials may take time to arrive. Drives are valuable, but they are not the only way to recruit: every Knight should personally invite men from his parish, workplace, and circle of friends to join.

We also need to reduce the number of men on our councils' prospect lists. As of the beginning of November, nearly 400 men who have joined the Knights have not yet been invited to a CUF ceremony and connected with their parish council. More than 100 prospects have been on a council's list for over a year. Each council should reach out to every man on its list and invite him to a CUF ceremony. Bringing these men into the council benefits them and helps the council grow, work toward Star or Double Star Council, and put more hands to charitable service in the parish and community. If a prospect does not respond or does not wish to join your council, the Grand Knight or Financial Secretary should reject the prospect so he can be removed from the list.

To encourage recruiting through the end of the year, we are introducing the ***Knights Before Christmas Sweepstakes***. For every new member who joins online and is assigned to your council's prospect list, your council will receive one entry into the drawing for a cash prize. Councils must add at least two new

State Membership Director

members their prospect list to be eligible, and there is no limit to the number of entries a council can earn. The sweepstakes runs from November 14 through December 31, 2026. Prizes of **$500 for first place**, **$250 for second place**, and **$100 for third place** will be sent directly to the winning councils. Winners will be announced at the Mid-Year Meeting in January. We will also announce new incentives for the remainder of the Columbian year in January.

The Supreme Go for Two More incentive is also underway through December 31, 2026. Members who recruit two men between September 1 and December 31 will be entered into a drawing for a $2,000 cash prize. Ten second-place winners will receive a customized Knights-branded football jersey. Please encourage your fellow Knights to take part while this incentive is still running.

Thank you for your continued commitment to inviting new men into the Order and serving our parishes and communities. Please add your membership events to the State Events Calendar, make a plan for your next drive, and follow up with the men on your prospect list. Together, we can help more men discover the fellowship and charitable work of the Knights of Columbus.

Vivat Jesus! Viva Cristo Rey!

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

My Brother Knights,

Form 10784 is back and in full swing. 441 were received in October, congratulations Arizona councils!

October was **Respect Life Month**, and councils throughout Arizona demonstrated their commitment to building a Culture of Life through prayer, service, advocacy, and charitable outreach. Whether sponsoring Silver Rose programs, supporting individuals with special needs, organizing Baby Bottle Drives, assisting pregnancy resource centers, or leading parish prayer initiatives, these councils put their faith into action and made a meaningful difference in their communities.

#4737, St. John Vianney – Silver Rose

#5221, Florence – Special Olympics

#8077, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena for Life

#9801, Winslow – Mass for Special Needs

#10070, San Martin de Porres – Special Needs support to local Catholic School

#10799, Our Lady of the Mountains – Silver Rose, Litany of Life Family Prayer Night

#11809, Our Lady of Lourdes – Our Lady of Fatima Rosary for an end to abortion

#12144, St. Elizabeth Seton – Silver Rose

#12696, Corpus Christi – Reachout Women's Center donations

#13272, Our Lady of the Rosary – Sanctity of Life Adoration, Walking with Moms in Need $2000 Donation

#13286, St. Gabriel, Cave Creek – Aid to Women Baby Bottle Drive

#14230, St. Rita in the Desert – Baby Bottle Drive, Reachout Pregnancy Center, Assist with Eagle Scout Project for a Rosary Garden.

State Program Director

Congratulations to Our October Program Incentive Winner!

A special congratulations to **Council #16277, Fr. Louis Anthony Sigman Council, San Juan Diego Parish, Chandler, Arizona**, winner of the **$50 State Council Donation** to a charity of its choosing.

Council #16277 exemplified an extraordinary commitment to Life Programs throughout October. As part of the **40 Days for Life** campaign, members participated in prayer vigils outside the Tempe Planned Parenthood facility, conducted a successful **Baby Bottle Drive** benefiting **Aid to Women**, and presented a **$1,000 donation to Walking with Moms in Need**. Their dedication to prayer, advocacy, and charitable support reflects the very spirit of Respect Life Month and serves as an inspiration to councils across Arizona.

Thank you to all our Arizona Knights for your faithful service and for helping to uphold and defend the dignity of every human life. Your efforts continue to make a lasting impact throughout our communities and across our state.

CONGRATULATIONS-

September 2026 Family of the Month

The **George Sedillo Family**, Fr. Douglas J. Nohava Council #1229, Flagstaff, AZ.

October 2026 Family of the Month

The **Larry Peterson Family**, Fr. Louis Anthony Sigman #16277, Chandler, AZ.

KofC Supreme has announced that the new Columbian Award Application will be live for their reporting on January 1! You can find the form here. Supreme looks forward to awarding worthy councils for their efforts.

Brothers,as we enter the month of December, let us remember two important celebrations in our Catholic faith: the Feast of **St. Juan Diego** on December 9 and the Feast of **Our Lady of Guadalupe** on Decembe

Imitating Saint Juan Diego

Encourage councils to bring Our Lady of Guadalupe to the homes of their councils and parishes by organizing a travelling statue of Our Lady! For

resources, click here. Anyone can order a statue for their pilgrimage at shopcatholicinfo.com.

I encourage every council and member to participate in these two programs as a meaningful expression of our devotion to Our Blessed Mother. Through prayer, service, and fraternity, may we honor Our Lady of Guadalupe and share her message of faith, hope, and love within our parishes and communities.

Vivat Jesus!

¡Viva Cristo Rey!

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

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

Brothers,

Let's talk Safe Environment. As of November 17th, **ONLY 44%** of Councils in Arizona meet KofC Safe Environment requirements

60 Councils, 110 Grand Knights, 84 Program Directors,
74 Family Directors, 81 Community Directors are fully compliant

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

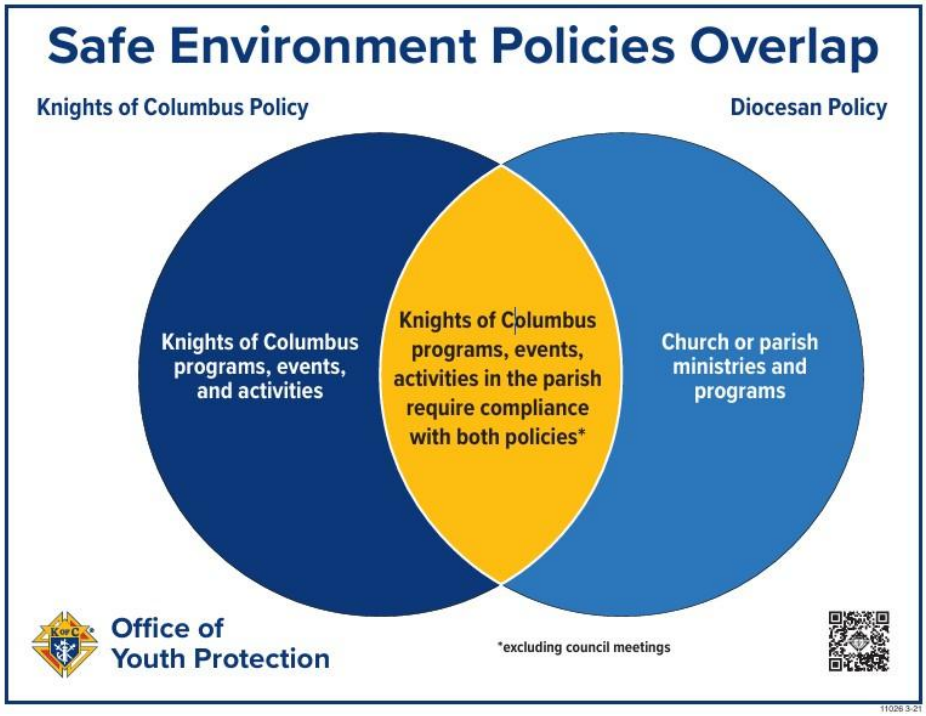
District Deputies and Grand Knights need to bring their councils into full compliance. Submit your Forms 185/365 designating Brothers to serve in the required roles and ask them to complete training (and background checks where applicable) within 30 days of receiving the email. Information on the Order's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

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

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

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

State Advocate



Zero Tolerance

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

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

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State EFF Director

Lead Like Christ: A Day of Leadership Training for Tucson-Area EFF Directors

Join us Saturday, December 19, for a day of learning, fellowship, and practical tools. (look for other sessions and locations throughout the state next year!)

All Tucson-area EFF directors are invited to a day of leadership training presented by Supreme. The day will help us become stronger leaders of the EFF initiative, and it may open the door to leading in other directions as well. It's a chance to learn from Supreme, share ideas with fellow directors, and leave with tools we can put to use right away.

Event Details

- **Date**: Saturday, December 19
- **Time**: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- **Location**: St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, Tucson
- **Meals**: Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided

What We Will Cover

Forming Missionary Disciples. The training equips council officers, program directors, and laymen with the background and context needed to evangelize and lead other men.

Christ-Centered Leadership. Rather than treating leadership purely as organizational management, the sessions draw on Gospel values and resources like the Leadership Virtues Series, emphasizing foundational virtues such as humility, courage, and servant leadership.

Supporting the Cor Initiative. Participants will receive practical instruction on running Cor.

Strengthening Families and Parishes. The ultimate aim is to give each man the tools, spiritual habits, and peer support he needs to be a stronger husband, father, and active parish leader.

State EFF Director

Bring a Fellow Officer or Guest

You are welcome to bring a fellow officer or guest who would benefit from the training. Please have them register as well so we can plan for meals and seating. Space is limited to 30 attendees, so we encourage you to register early.

Register Today

Sign up here: https://forms.gle/7R5ga92FCL1KYWtK6

We hope to see you on December 19!

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

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

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

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

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

My Brother Knights,

I want to express my sincere appreciation to all our Sir Knights who continue to demonstrate their dedication to our Order, Church, and country.

Throughout Arizona, we had numerous Color Corps callouts, with many Sir Knights proudly participating in Veterans Day parades, flag ceremonies, and patriotic events honoring those who have served our great nation. Your commitment to the Fourth Degree and our principle of Patriotism is truly commendable.

February Exemplification — Let's Make It Our Biggest Yet!

Our next Fourth Degree Exemplification will take place on Saturday, February 13, 2027, at St. Augustine Cathedral in Tucson.

I recently spoke with Bishop James A. Misko, our honoree, who expressed his expectation of an outstanding turnout. I assured him that the Sir Knights of Arizona would rise to the occasion!

Our last Exemplification in Chandler welcomed 126 new Sir Knights, an incredible accomplishment. Now, I challenge every Assembly, Faithful Navigator, and Sir Knight to help us surpass that number in Tucson.

Registration will open soon, so now is the time to get your candidates lined up! Reach out to your Third Degree Brothers, personally invite them, and encourage them to take the next step in their journey as Knights of Columbus.

Let's fill St. Augustine Cathedral and show Bishop Misko the strength and dedication of Arizona's Fourth Degree!

May God bless you, your families, and our great Order.

Vivat Jesus!

SK Luigi Baratta, PSD
Arizona District Master

Sir Knight Luigi Baratta, PSD
AZ District Master
John H. Reddin Province
Knights of Columbus
Mobile: 602-326-8511
So.baratta@yahoo.com
www.KofC-AZ.org/patriotic-degree

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State Council

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

2026-2027 State Leadership Team

State Deputy	**Kevin McCarthy** 602-684-8125 kmccarthy.kofc@gmail.com		State Chaplain	**Fr. David Halm, C.S.C.** dhalm@sjvaz.net
State Secretary	**Larry Powers** 702-827-8135 larry.powers.azkofc@gmail.com		State Treasurer	**Bobby Nielsen** 520-349-0728 bnielsen200@gmail.com
State Advocate	**Rich Tracy** 520-904-3175 rich.tracyazkofc@icloud.com		State Warden	**Dan Kudulis** 602-647-3551 dansiluduk@cox.net
Immediate Past State Deputy	**Tom Kato** 480-907-4581 tom.kato.azkofc@gmail.com		Director Evangelization and Faith Formation	**Dcn. Bruce Bennett** 480-294-0282 dcnbruce.bennett.azkofc@gmail.com
State Membership Director	**Ken Gallagher** 520-661-1262 membership@kofc-az.org		Evangelization and Faith Formation Clergy Liaison	**Father Arthur Nave** frnaveaz@gmail.com
General Agent	**Nate Raso** 801-867-0491 nate.raso@kofc.org		State Program Director	**Ben Jimenez** 520-904-4542 programs@kofc-az.org
State Executive Secretary	**Mike Rimbey** 602-510-0768 skmikerimbey@gmail.com		District Master	**Luigi Baratta** 602-326-8511 so.baratta@yahoo.com
			Executive Secretary to the State Deputy	**Rick Garrison** 480-522-7064 kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com

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

United in Love — Arizona State Pin 26–27



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

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

The Council Success Flywheel



From a mechanical side, the flywheel is a very heavy wheel that is used to generate and transfer energy to other parts of a machine. Once it starts spinning, it's hard to stop.

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

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