

... from the Texas State Council



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Volume 2025 Issue 3

30-60-90 Day Outlook

March 2025

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Ron Alonzo (Margo)

State Deputy
361-947-1346

skronalonzo1202@gmail.com

Most Reverend Bishop

Michael Mulvey

State Chaplain
Corpus Christi, TX
325-651-7500

Rev. Tommy Chen
Asst. State Chaplain

Robert "Bob" Goss

State Secretary
334-538-1415

bob@gosslaw.com

Derek Rabey (Veronica)

State Treasurer
210-288-7353

Skdr2001@gmail.com

David Pels (Susan)

State Advocate
817-807-2982

Pelsd66@gmail.com

Reed Fontenot (Donna)

State Warden
501-920-0102

reed.fontenot@att.net

Terry Fruge (Beth)

Immediate Past State
Deputy
713-417-0751

tbfruge@comcast.net

From the Texas State Council:

From the Desk of the State Deputy

FINISH STRONG

As we approach the Lenten season, it is a time of contemplation, dedication, and preparation.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 5th and ends on Holy Thursday, April 17th .

There are several Men's Conferences scheduled throughout our State, here is another opportunity to recruit men that are on fire with the Holy Spirit. Also, many of our council's host Fish Fry during Lent, take advantage of the events and recruit!

Because of your Councils/Districts/Dioceses hard work, the Texas State Council continues to lead the Order in Division #1 in membership intake.

We have four months left in this fraternal year. Let's take advantage of the momentum we have and Let's Finish Strong!

Let's get Texas into the Circle of Honor before our Annual State Convention, leaving us with the months of May and June to achieve Pinnacle Status!

Ron Alonzo
State Deputy
skronalonzo1202@gmail.com



Executive Secretary

Carlos Gonzalez (Rebecca)
512-497-8779
carlos@tkofc.org

State Admin Accountant

Kari Jordan
512-442-1492
kjordan@tkofc.org

State Admin Council Records

Kathleen McLoughlin
512-442-1492
kathleenm@tkofc.org

Texas State Council
1033 La Posada Dr.
Suite 100
Austin, TX 78752
512-442-1492 - office

Membership:

We believe the Knights of Columbus provides Catholic men the best opportunity in today’s world of following in the footsteps of Christ. We thus want to do all within our power to grow the Order and foster healthy, vibrant councils in every parish.

As Knights, we should all believe this. Viewed in this light, it makes sense that we want to give all Catholic men the opportunity to join the Knights.

The membership goal for each Diocese in Texas for March is shown below.

Division 1		Division 2		Division 3	
Diocese	Goal	Diocese	Goal	Diocese	Goal
Austin	52	Beaumont	19	Amarillo	7
Dallas	62	Brownsville	14	El Paso	19
Fort Worth	48	Corpus Christi	14	Laredo	17
Gal-Houston	95	San Angelo	19	Lubbock	7
San Antonio	76	Victoria	14	Tyler	12

We have always encouraged every District Deputy to host one Exemplification per month. An easy website has been set up to allow DDs to report their monthly Exemplification by the first of the month. Simply click [here](#) and input your information. And you can look up Exemplifications online by clicking [here](#).

Do not forget that Supreme Per Capitas are due NOW. Councils will be suspended on April 10 for non-payment, so please get these paid. Contact your DD if you are not able to go online and see your council statement.

Also, State Per Capitas, if not yet paid, were due March 1. If they have not been paid, your council cannot participate in any State Council activities. These include State Free Throw Contest, Educational Grants, State Program Awards, State Convention, and so on. Please pay State Per Caps ASAP.

As we proceed into March, let’s remember the best way to get a man into the Knights is a face-to-face invitation. And the best time to extend this invitation is during one of your council events. When your council is performing a service for a man or his family is when he will see the most benefit of joining.

Hosting a Fish Fry? Instead of having 10 guys in the kitchen, have a couple of Knights wander around the dining room chatting with your customers. Ask them to join. Have them go to kofc.org/join right there on the spot.

Having an Easter Egg Hunt? Well, right behind those 200 eager kids ready to charge the field of battle are 200 dads in that 30–50-year-old demographic – that’s what we call “a target rich environment”. Have some guys wander around asking the guys to join and get them to do so on the spot.

**Membership Director**

Bill Tillotson (Christina)
817-690-0556
william-tillotson@yahoo.com

Star Council Director

David Zeigler (Laura)
903-926-0776
zigsr@att.net

Charity Director

Joe Jacobo (Nicole)
432-638-5578
joejacobokofc@yahoo.com

Program Director

Rick Guzman (Telsa)
210-215-7196
skrickguzman6021@gmail.com

Education, Training, & Communications Director

Chad Sandwell (Stephanie)
409-656-4284
chadsandwell@gmail.com

Evangelization & Faith Formation Director

Gregory Brown (Hollie)
940-247-1721
ggb@me.com

Insurance Liaison

Juan Carlos Carlin (Erica)
956-206-0407
Juan.carlin@kofc.org

Texas Knight Editor/TKOFC Webmaster

Mark Johnson
512-851-8000
mjohnson@creatdev.com

Flowers on Mother's Day? Same thing. Free throw contest? Same thing. Every event can be a membership building event if you put your mind to it.

Consider giving all the men of your parish the opportunity to join the Knights in our mission by simply asking them.

Bill Tillotson
Texas State Council
Membership Director
817.690.0556
william-tillotson@yahoo.com

Education, Training, & Communications:

"Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold." – 2 Corinthians 3:12

At the start of January, the Texas State Council launched the new look www.tkofc.org. The site has a lot of great features, so check it out and browse around. If you have any questions you can reach out and we'll answer them for you. The site continues to grow and we will be adding new features to the site for everyone to enjoy.

Additionally, if you have a news item that you would like to submit to the website, you can send them to the email txstatec@gmail.com and we will get them published as soon as we can.

Our team is here to fulfill all your needs to be a Star Council. Visit www.kofc.org or www.tkofc.org at least weekly. Email all forms to the correct Supreme email address and to the Texas State Council at forms@tkofc.org. Copy all forms to your District & Diocesan Deputy.

Online training and webinars are available 24/7 on the Supreme website. Visit <https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/fraternal-training.html> for the complete library of topics for members and Council Leaders.

Click on the links below to register for these scheduled sessions. (Note: All Times are Eastern)

March 6, 2025 8:00 PM.....**Membership Records Management**

March 10, 2025 8:00 PM.....**Introducing Families to the Knights**

March 18, 2025 8:00 PM.....**Engaging Members**

March 26, 2025 10:00 PM.....**Best Practices for Council Fundraising**

Our Financial Secretary Trainers are available to assist Council Financial Secretaries and other Officers with their needs for Affiliate Member Initiative questions. Please reach out to them to schedule a one-on-one session. Diocesan Deputies, please schedule your live training sessions if you have not done so. David Solis (Chairman) dsolis4027@aol.com 915-238-8735 can assist you with this. The room needs to have adequate wireless internet to accommodate all trainees. David can also schedule an online training session. We cannot stress enough how important these trainings are!

March 2024 – 3rd Quarter ending

- **March 1 -- All State Award applications due for each Director's Area.** International Wheelchair Day.
- **March 5 -- Ash Wednesday**
- **March 8 --Basketball Free-throw – San Antonio – *State per capita MUST be paid to participate***
- **March 15 -- Form 10784 Family of the Month (for February) due**
- **March 29 -- Founder's Day**
- Conduct Church Membership Drives & Exemplifications

*****Elect State Convention Delegates & fill out all forms for State Convention—DUE April 1st**

April 2025 – 4th Quarter begins FINISH STRONG!!

- **April 20 – Easter Sunday**
- **April 25 – 27 – Texas State Convention;** Omni Hotel, Corpus Christi, Texas
- Conduct Church Membership Drives & Exemplifications; this is a great time to speak with those new Catholic me who entered the Church on Holy Saturday through RCIA
- Start your Sp-7; this is a great time to take inventory on what you need to complete the STAR Council requirements.

May 2025– 4th Quarter is underway FINISH STRONG!!

- Start (or complete) and submit your Sp7
- Conduct your first round of nominations for council officers for the upcoming fraternal year

Chad Sandwell

Texas State Council

Education, Training & Communications Director

chadsandwell@gmail.com

409-656-4284

Programs:

Worthy Brother Knights,

This is an update on Programs across the State of Texas:

Soccer Challenge, Catholic Citizenship Essays & Keep Christ in Christ Posters.

I have ordered 1st, 2nd & 3rd place trophies for all of these events.

The 1st place trophies will be awarded and presented to the Diocesan Deputies accordingly during the Award Ceremony of the KofC State Convention in Corpus Christi Tx. The 2nd & 3rd place trophies will be available for pick up at one of our Programs tables, at this same event. All Diocesan Deputies that had 1st, 2nd & 3rd place State winners have been notified.

Our Inaugural **State Cornhole Tournament** was held on 02/22/25, in Hallettsville Texas at KofC Council 2433 Hall. The contest was held inside and there were five state finalists. The Knights of Council 2433 made chopped beef sandwiches for \$10.00 each and you could buy beer for \$3.50. We plan to change the format to two-man teams next year. Our Texas State

Cornhole Tournament Chairman James Halfmann and his Team did an excellent job. Special thanks go out to Our Texas State Treasurer Derek Rabey for providing oversight of the tournament.

Our **60th State Bowling Tournament** took place this month as well during the past two weekends of 02/15/25 – 02/16/25 and 02/22/25 – 02/23/25, at Bandera Bowl located in Leon Valley Texas.

During the first week the State Team comprised of Supreme Director Alfredo Vela, State Treasurer Derek Rabey, State Director Chad Sandwell and State Director Rick Guzman competed, we had a great time and many laughs. Our State Bowling Tournament Chairman Mike Cook and his Team did an outstanding job. There were 36 entries with 28 teams that competed.

In addition, the Casey Ladies had 13 teams, which is one more team than last year. Let us assist both Brother Knights and the Casey Ladies promote and grow their perspective tournaments next year. Also, being that no Teams from the nearby Dioceses of San Antonio and Austin show up to bowl, our bowlers from the Houston Diocese have issued out a challenge to those two Dioceses for next year's State Bowling Tournament. I thought I heard them say: Come Get Some!

State Programs Awards: I have started receiving multiple submissions for the following awards: Family of the Year, Programs Life, Faith, Family, & Community, and Blessed Michael McGivney Award.

Thanks to all the councils for their submissions. There is a March 1st hard Deadline for all Programs Awards submissions.

Rick Guzman
Texas State Council
Programs Director
skrickguzman6021@gmail.com
210-215-7196

Star Council Awards

Brothers,

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" John 14:6

We have 4 months to go. Star Council is not out of reach for anyone. The Star Council Team can help you plan & execute to obtain your goal. Resubmit your Form 365 – Report of Service Personnel, complete your Safe Environment, schedule your FBE's, and go get those new members. 90% of all councils are doing extremely well with the forms. You can do this!

Safe Environment requirements are due by MAY 1, 2025!!!! Hard Deadline!

Meet the dates below for the Star Council & LSAFE Requirements:

April 10, 2025 – Supreme Per Capita due (Star Council)

April 25-27, 2025 -State Convention – Corpus Christi - LSAFE

April 2025 – prepare and submit the Columbian Award to the Star Council team to verify requirements to help before you send it to Supreme.

May 1, 2025 – Safe Environment (Star Council)

June 30, 2025 – Form Sp-7 - Columbian Award due (Star Council)

Incentive: 1st Star Council in Texas

Every Council that pre-qualifies for Star Council as of the April 15, 2025, Star Tracker Report, the Grand Knight will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 gift card. The Drawing will be held during the State Convention weekend.

Do not think it is too late to earn Star Council. You still have plenty of time. Our team will continue to contact the District Deputies to maintain your Star Council status. Please note the Due Date is the last date for Submission. You can submit all forms earlier than the Due Date. Let us know how we can help you! Shoot for the Star!

Vivat Jesus!

David Zeigler, Star Council Director

903-926-0776

zigsr@att.net

Texas State Council Charities:

CULTURE CHANGE

Worthy Texas Knights,

As we prepare for the Lenten season, let us embrace the transformative power of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Through these practices, we can deepen our spiritual connection, cultivate discipline, and extend compassion to those in need. An effective method to participate in almsgiving is through State Council Charities (SCC). I would like to inform you about how your charitable contributions are allocated within your diocese when you donate through SCC.

FOR THEIR CHARITY FUNDS

Amarillo - Secondary Catholic Education in the Amarillo Diocese

Austin - Catholic Schools

Beaumont - Seminarian Fund

Brownsville - Deaf Ministry/Disabled Program

Corpus Christi - Farm of Hope (Fazenda da Esperança)

Dallas - Persons with Disabilities and Deaf Ministries

El Paso - Vocations

Fort Worth - Deaf Ministry and Seminarian Support

Galveston/Houston - Retired Priests Pension Funds

Laredo - Evangelization/Outreach Charity & Seminarian Support

Lubbock - Vocations/Seminarian Support

San Angelo - Seminarian Education

San Antonio - Propaedeutic Program at Assumption Seminary

Tyler - Seminarian Education & Training

Victoria - Continuing Education for Priests, Extension of Lay Ministry and Evangelization

Thank you for all the efforts made in your communities in the name of charity.

Joe Jacobo
TSC Charity Director
joejacobokofc@yahoo.com
432.638.5578

Evangelization & Faith Formation:

Grace and Peace Worthy Brothers,

“If we get the man right, we get everything right – the marriage, the family, the parish, the community. We need men who will say ‘yes ’to their God-given vocation.”

- Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly

Introducing Cor Central: A quarterly EFF newsletter dedicated to helping your Council EFF Director successfully run Cor. The next issue will be in early April, ensure you have appointed a Council EFF Director. You can also sign up for the COR Central newsletter by following this link: [Link to Cor Central](#)

New Opportunity for Faith in Action: Introducing a new way for councils to earn credit toward the Columbian Award through a parish FORMED subscription. Learn more [here](#). As a reminder, all Council EFF Directors will receive access to FORMED, please follow Council EFF Director link below to sign up.

We developed *Cor* to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity. This truly can only be achieved through the Grace of God and the working of the Holy Spirit. We know that lives are being transformed through the Christ centered brotherhood of *Cor*. Please share your testimony of *Cor*.

This testimony may be a story of your own or on behalf of someone else or the whole group. Your testimony may include success stories and/or struggles that you have faced through the development and running of *Cor*. If there is a challenge you would like to share that will help us in the future, please do not hesitate to include these as well. [SUBMIT A COR TESTIMONIAL HERE](#)

The Knights of Columbus Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF) initiative aims to center all council activity and membership engagement around Jesus Christ. We must place giving the opportunity for men to encounter Jesus Christ and grow in the Catholic faith as our first priority.

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Formation (EFF) initiative aims to center all council activity and membership engagement around Jesus Christ. Central to the [Council EFF Directors](#) role besides COR, is to work with council leadership, especially their Membership and Programs directors, to create Christ centered messaging and add in a faith element to existing events. Appointing a [Council EFF Director](#), will allow your Council to be aided by our State EFF Team and Supreme in assisting your council placing faith first which was at the heart of Blessed McGivney's vision for his Knights. This director is separate from the Faith Program director for the council.

District Deputies, please continue to encourage your Grand Knights to appoint a [Council EFF Director](#). We need to strive to have every active council have an appointed EFF Director.

Council EFF Directors and Chaplains can find startup guides, content for prayer and formation, resources and training videos at www.kofc.org/cor and for Spanish councils, www.kofc.org/cor-es.

If you have any questions about beginning or maintaining COR or how a Council EFF Director can work with existing Council activities to incorporate faith and prayer, please let our State EFF Team and myself assist your council.

Texas State Council EFF Committeemen:

- [John Danley](#): El Paso, San Angelo, Lubbock, Amarillo
- [Gregory Brown](#) Dallas, Fort Worth, Tyler, Beaumont
- [Jose Ramos](#): Laredo, Brownsville, Corpus Christi, San Antonio
- [Will Britten](#): Austin, Galveston-Houston, Victoria

The Knights of Columbus make 4 promises to all our Brother Knights and prospective Knights.

- Help all men grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ
- To provide opportunities for men to serve Christ in His Church including being a missionary disciple
- To provide opportunities for men to serve those most in need in their communities and around the world IN THE NAME OF CHRIST JESUS
- Promise to provide protection and aid to widows and orphans through our insurance arm

Gregory Brown
Texas State Council Knights of Columbus
Evangelization and Faith Formation Director
Vivat Jesus!
gbb@me.com
940.247.1721

Finish Line Editor

Chad Sandwell
409-656-4284
chadsandwell@gmail.com

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The "Finish Line" is published Monthly by the Texas State Council and electronically posted on the www.tkofc.org website by the Editor. The publication is a running outlook of the activities, events, award criteria, and form due dates for the next 30-60-90 days. Specific questions about Membership, Charities, Programs, Council Growth, Star Council, Education, Training, & Communications, and the specific subjects therein should be directed to the appropriate State Director.