

# FINISH LINE



**Knights of  
Columbus®**  
**Texas  
State Council**

## FROM THE DESK OF : STATE DEPUTY RON ALONZO

### Champions Make Their Mark in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

This week, we began the fourth quarter of the fraternal year at a time that can make or break our success. Just like in sports, the fourth quarter is where champions are made. It's not about how you start it's about how you finish.

As we enter this final stretch, we find ourselves in a pivotal moment that mirrors the intensity of the closing minutes of a football game. Champions are not made by chance, but through deliberate action, focus, and execution.

We have strong momentum coming off two very productive months in February and March now is the time to build on that energy and keep it going.

We are also just days away from the 122nd Annual Texas Knights of Columbus State Convention. Margo and I look forward to welcoming our Brother Knights and delegates to Dallas, and we hope you have a great and memorable experience.

Thank you for everything you have done so far this year and for what you will continue to do in your local councils during these final weeks.

Your dedication is what makes Texas the best jurisdiction in the Order.

As we reflect on this fraternal year, we can be proud of the progress we've made in membership recruitment, council growth, charity, programs, insurance, and Star Councils. That success is a direct result of strong leadership and committed members across the state.

If our jurisdiction succeeds, it's because of you. In these final weeks, we must remain united and focused especially on recruitment, Star Councils, charity, and programs.



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Texas has a proud history of membership growth, and for the state to succeed, our councils must succeed.

I ask every Grand Knight to commit to putting a recruitment plan into action. And for those councils that have not yet recruited a new member this year now is the time to step forward and join the ranks.

Together, we can ensure that Texas returns to the Circle of Honor with Pinnacle status.

A heartfelt thank you to all my Brother Knights.

We still have work to do but together, we will succeed.

Ron Alonzo  
State Deputy  
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## 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.

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](#).



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## STATE DIRECTORS

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## MEMBERSHIP CONT.

Monthly Goals For April					
Division 1		Division 2		Division 3	
Austin	65	Brownsville	23	Amarillo	13
Dallas	48	Corpus Christi	23	Beaumont	15
Fort Worth	51	San Angelo	22	El Paso	20
Gal-Houston	100	Victoria	29	Laredo	10
San Antonio	71			Lubbock	13
				Tyler	17

We are in the home stretch. The State will make Circle of Honor by the sometime in May and Pinnacle before the end of June. Has your council made your Star Council goal yet? If not, don't wait until late June to get your new members exemplified.

Make sure and keep an eye on your council prospect tabs as we are recruiting LOTS of online members to out councils.

In the last quarter of the year, please focus on these populations within your parishes after Easter:

- New Catholic men coming out of OCIA
- High school seniors who turn 18
- Men at your council events, such as Easter Egg Hunts, Mother's Day events, etc.

Every council event can be a membership building event. And men will join your council when they see you performing a kindness for their family. Some men should be pulled out of the back of the kitchen as set out to recruiting men. Please make sure at least one man is dedicated to this task at every event.

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## **MEMBERSHIP CONT.**

We look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming 122<sup>nd</sup> State Convention in Dallas. The educational sessions for Membership will be:

Friday Afternoon:

How To Be A Successful Membership Director - Learn all the practices a Council Membership Director can adopt to maximize the growth of his council. It involves building a team, making a plan and following through with the plan. Using these practices will bring your council growth to new heights.

Turbocharged Membership Drives - Effective membership drives are vital to council growth. In this session, we'll talk about how to effectively plan and execute membership drives in order to maximize your council growth.

Saturday Afternoon:

How To Be A Successful Membership Director – Repeat of Friday's presentation.

Recruiting Younger Men into Your Council - We all want to recruit younger men into our councils. But too often, we are unable to do so. This session will focus on what attracts younger men to the Knights. Hear from actual younger Knights about what attracted them to join and get involved.

I think you will find a great deal can be learned by attending these sessions. I encourage you split up the men from your council to attend as many sessions as possible and bring the information back to help your council thrive.

Keep striving to build the Order and Vivat Jesus!

Vivat Jesus!

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## STAR COUNCIL

Brothers,

"The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame". Isaiah 50:7

We have 3 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. 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 June 10, 2026!!!! Hard Deadline! Note after this date, there is no time for the training and background checks to be carried out. Do not wait! We should already be compliant!

Contact your General Agent & Field Agent to schedule your FBE. Be on the look out for Supreme FBE webinars. Submit your 11077! See below for the next Statewide FBE!

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

April - Recruit all month long – Be 100% before State Convention!

April 1, 2026 – Submit the Columbian Award to the Star Council team to verify requirements to help before you send it to Supreme.

April 7, 2026 – 7 pm Statewide FBE – Funeral Planning with our Worthy State Deputy,

SK Ron Alonzo click this link to register

[https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1752550&tp\\_key=4dfbd30c60](https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1752550&tp_key=4dfbd30c60)

April 10, 2026 – Supreme Per Capita due (Star Council)

April 24-26, 2026 - State Convention – Dallas - LSAFE

May – Recruit all month long

May 1, 2026 – Safe Environment (Star Council)

May -June - Council Elections

June – Recruit all month long, get us to Pinnacle Status

June 30, 2026 – Form Sp-7 - Columbian Award due (Star Council) Last day to submit, you can submit early!

July 1, 2026 – Submit Form 185 – Report of Officers & Form 365 – Report of Service Personnel to start the next Fraternal Year off right.



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## STAR COUNCIL CONT.

Prior to submitting your SP-7 – Columbina Award Application, verify all other required forms for the Featured Programs has been submitted. Your RSVP – Form 2863, your Form for ASAP, etc. Supreme does not look back after those forms are submitted, if you submitted your SP-7 1<sup>st</sup>.

Incentive: 1st Star Council in Texas

Every Council that pre-qualifies for Star Council as of the April 17, 2026, Star Tracker Report, the Grand Knight will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 gift card. The Drawing will be held during the Friday Awards Ceremony at the State Convention. If all your other requirements are completed for Star Council, submit your SP-7 to the Star Council team to be entered into the drawing. If you submitted it to Supreme and it is approved by April 17, we will be notified. But send a copy to the State at [forms@tkofc.org](mailto:forms@tkofc.org) to verify you are in the drawing!

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. Let us know how we can help you! Do not be ashamed to get your Star!

Vivat Jesus!

David Zeigler, Star Council Director  
903-926-0776; [zigsr@att.net](mailto:zigsr@att.net)

## CHARITY

See you soon!

I hope to see everyone later this month as we gather in Dallas for the 2026 Texas State Council Convention. The Texas State Council is inviting and welcoming all Texas Knights to attend the 2026 Annual Convention. We are deep in preparing for this major event that shows our work and goal setting for our growing order.

Please make plans to attend our training sessions hosted by our state directors and other State Leadership. I invite you to attend the charity sessions held in the convention center break-out rooms. We will celebrate the milestones reached and those to follow in the next few months. We will set the path to one million dollars later this year, aiming for an all-time high of \$1,030,000.00.



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## CHARITY CONT.

I urge you to look out for the monthly State Council Charities newsletter sent by email every second Monday of the month. We highlight the excellent work we do in the name of charity. All the Council and Diocesan standings and reports will publish within that message.

See you all soon in person at the TSC Convention. I pray that everyone travels safely and arrives well. Get there early to enjoy your time in Dallas with the sights and sounds. You will enjoy the fraternalism shared by all!

Vivat Jesus!

Joe Jacobo  
Texas State Council  
Charity Director

## PROGRAMS

### State Free Throw Championship

The State Basketball Free Championship was held on March 7th, 2026, at the Ed White Middle School, San Antonio Tx. Special thanks to Jesse Aguilar, the State Basketball Free Throw Chairman. I received multiple compliments for the well-run State Basketball Free Throw Championship that occurred this weekend. Compliments came from the State Deputy, State Officers, State Directors and Diocesan Deputies. Also Special Thanks to Assist Diocesan Deputy Hank Dela Garza and Worthy District Deputy Tom Stamp for your assistance and Leadership.

### State Annual Bowling Tournament

This tournament was held at the Max Bowl Humble, 2390 Wilson Road in Humble Tx, on the weekends of March 14 and March 21. Team Bowling was conducted on Saturdays and doubles/singles on Sundays. They had a great turnout and Immediate Past State Deputy Terry Fruge stopped by during the first weekend.



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## **PROGRAMS CONT.**

### State Program Awards

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026, The Pre-Convention Meeting was held at the Downtown Sheraton Hotel in Dallas Texas. During this meeting, the State Directors met and selected the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners for the State Program Awards in the following categories: Faith, Family, Community and Life. The Family of the Year and the Chaplain of the Year, better known as the Blessed Michael McGivney Award, were also selected.

### Upcoming Event:

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual KofC Texas State Cornhole Tournament.

Date: April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Location: Knights of Columbus Hall, Council 2433, 321 US 77, Hallettsville Texas, 77964.

Rick Guzman – State Programs Director

## **EDUCATION, TRAINING & COMMUNICATION**

Brother Knights,

The Texas State Convention is right around the corner. The dates for this years Convention are April 24<sup>th</sup> - April 26<sup>th</sup> in Dallas, Texas. Please start making plans for your councils to send 2 delegates for our most important gathering of the year.

For more information you can go to the [State Website](#) and check out all the details.

On April 7th, Our State Deputy Ron Alonzo will be hosting a Fraternal Benefit event for Knights across Texas. If your Council is short on its FBE Goal for this fraternal year, this is a great chance to take care of that. More importantly, this is great information that every Knight and their families can benefit from.



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**[Fraternal Benefit Registration](#)**

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## **EDUCATION, TRAINING & COMMUNICATIONS CONT.**

Fraternal training continues year round. Council Elections will be coming up sooner than you think. There is no better time to get a prospective officer the information they need to succeed in their next Council Role. The Supreme Council offers training for every officer role. These training sessions take usually no more than 30 minutes. Share the following link with your Councils ahead of the election season.

### **Training For Prospective Officers**

Here's what you need to know for the next 30, 60 and 90 days.

#### **April – 4th Quarter begins FINISH STRONG!!**

- April 24-26 – Texas State Convention in Dallas; be on the lookout for messages on activities related to the convention
- Conduct Church Membership Drives & Exemplifications; this is a great time to speak with those new Catholic members who entered the Church on Holy Saturday.
- Start your SP-7; this is a great time to take inventory on what you need to complete the STAR Council requirements.

#### **May – 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### **June - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter is Ending---FINISH STRONG**

- June 15<sup>th</sup> - Last day for council elections.
- June 21<sup>st</sup> - Father's Day
- June 30<sup>th</sup> - Columbian Award - Form SP-7 Due --**CANNOT BE LATE**
- June 30<sup>th</sup> - Report of Service Personnel Report (Form 365 For '26-'27)
- June 30<sup>th</sup> - District Deputy Annual Audit (Form 944)

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## EVANGELIZATION & FAITH FORMATION

Grace and Peace Worthy Brothers,

### **Cor Mission:**

To help focus Catholic men on Jesus by building Christ-centered brotherhood through a flexible framework of prayer, formation and fraternity.

### **Cor Vision:**

To aid in transforming the hearts of men through Christ-centered brotherhood. Rooted in prayer, formation and fraternity, men will be sharpened in faith and virtue as they cultivate authentic friendships with Christ and each other. We envision a future where Cor continuously helps sustain these men to lead their families, strengthen their parish communities and courageously evangelize the world as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ.

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Grand Knights, please take a brief moment to fill out the [Cor Quarterly Report](#) for Jan-March. This report can be submitted by either the GK or the Council EFF Director.

### **Into the Breach: The Dignity of Work**

"Men, in particular, are struggling to find their mission and meaning in life. Knights of Columbus 'Into the Breach: The Dignity of Work' video series can help Catholic men understand God's mission for them on Earth, and how work brings them closer to God and builds virtue."

-Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly

This compelling five-episode series exploring the Catholic vision of man's mission in the world and the nature of work is now available. [ItB: The Dignity of Work](#)

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### **New Cor Ecclesiae Series - The Gospel of Life**

A small group study of Pope Saint John Paul II's Encyclical Evangelium Vitae. Great for men who are wanting to learn about John Paul II's vision for a culture of life rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ passed down through the Church <https://shopcatholicinfo.com/products/the-gospel-of-life-cor-study-guide?variant=48956781232436>



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## EVANGELIZATION & FAITH FORMATION CONT.

### Cor Central Newsletter

Fraternal leaders, sign up for the quarterly COR Central Newsletter.

[https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/HQX4QQ7?source\\_id=202c84f8-4855-47dd-b3a9-9c1ce47f9ef7&source\\_type=em&c=Evi\\_EA8cOa2PQ8lTgSjJ-OONM0HzuFkg0uR-lc3HRhJoz90JJBZUsQ](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/HQX4QQ7?source_id=202c84f8-4855-47dd-b3a9-9c1ce47f9ef7&source_type=em&c=Evi_EA8cOa2PQ8lTgSjJ-OONM0HzuFkg0uR-lc3HRhJoz90JJBZUsQ) Each quarter receive updates from the Supreme EFF Director, new resources published by Supreme, and tips and ideas for the 3 elements of Cor (prayer, formation and fraternity). In addition, you will hear testimonials from Cor success's throughout the Order and lessons on being a Missionary Disciple. Join the community as we build the Evangelization and Faith Formation of the Knights of Columbus.

### 2025-2026 Fraternal Year Council EFF Director Submission

Grand Knights and District Deputies, please assist us with our goal of all active councils with an appointed EFF director. <https://info.kofc.org/EFF-Onboarding-LP.html> Please take 2 minutes and submit your Council Evangelization and Faith Formation Director. If you need assistance in choosing/appointing a EFF Director, please reach out to me or your Diocesan EFF Coordinator. Your Pastor would also be a good resource.

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Council EFF Directors and Chaplains can find startup guides, content for prayer and formation, resources and training videos at [www.kofc.org/cor](http://www.kofc.org/cor) and for Spanish councils, [www.kofc.org/cor-es](http://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, your Diocesan EFF Coordinator or myself assist your council.

Diocesan EFF Coordinators:

Amarillo - [Joshua Correa](#)

Austin - [Deacon Phúc Phan](#)

Beaumont - [Deacon Michael Sigur](#)

Brownsville - [Eduardo Saenz](#)

Corpus Christi - [Abel Gutierrez](#)

Dallas - [Dr. James Kauffmann](#)

El Paso - [John Danley](#)

Fort Worth - [Deacon Guillermo Munoz](#)



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## EVANGELIZATION & FAITH FORMATION CONT.

Galveston/Houston - [Don Hensley](#)

Laredo - [Hector Chapa](#)

Lubbock - [Richard Hernandez](#)

San Angelo (Deanery) - [Deacon Pete Madrid](#)

San Angelo (Midland/Odessa) - [Tino Vuelvas](#)

San Angelo (Abilene) - [Kevin Pantoja](#)

San Antonio - [Joe Hernandez](#)

Tyler - [Pat Farquharson](#)

Victoria - [Eloy Bonuz](#)

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

[Gregory Brown](#)

Texas State Council Knights of Columbus  
Evangelization and Faith Formation Director  
Vivat Jesus

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



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## STATE INSURANCE LIAISON

Brothers,

Trying to achieve financial strength and stability can feel overwhelming, especially when life is already full.

This month, I want to share a simpler way to think about it: holistic financial wellness. You can work toward this goal by developing an overall financial strategy and determining how Knights of Columbus products can be a part of that foundation.

A good place to start is protecting your family through life insurance. Term life coverage can help with temporary needs, while whole life coverage can last your entire lifetime and build guaranteed cash value over time.

Next, let's think about retirement. Whether it's years away or right around the corner, having a strategy for income in retirement matters. The Knights of Columbus offers solutions that can be part of an overall plan you feel confident about.

It's also important to prepare for the unexpected. Thinking ahead about how your family would handle an extended care need or a disruption in income due to disability is part of protecting what you have worked hard to build. The Knights has products to help ensure your family's life will not be financially disrupted in either case.

Attaining financial wellness doesn't need to feel overwhelming. You can start right away by simply using our life insurance calculator at [www.kofc.org/calculator](http://www.kofc.org/calculator). With a few key details, it will help you assess your insurance needs.

If you have any questions, please contact your agent to schedule a time to meet.

Contact your local Agent for more information.

Vivat Jesus!

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