

FINISH LINE



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

FROM THE DESK OF : STATE DEPUTY RON ALONZO

May the Lord bless you abundantly in 2026. Wishing you a year of grace, joy, and strengthened faith.
Happy New Year!



Congratulations on finishing the first half of our Fraternal Year Strong!

With all your hard work and efforts in the past six months, we were able to achieve 50% of our membership goal before December 31st, 2025. Thank you to our Diocesan Deputies, their assistants, District Deputies, and especially our Grand Knights and council members for your continuous dedication to the Order. Outstanding Job, Men!

Now, our focus should be on achieving Circle of Honor by our Annual State Convention.

We can do this!

Honoring our Past – Embracing the Future

Honoring our past and embracing our future is a continuous process that requires reflection, dialogue, and adaptation. In the Month of January 2026, we have asked our Past State Deputies to host an Exemplification. These Exemplifications will be in their honor, please contact your Diocesan Deputy and make an attempt to attend and bring a candidate.

Texas State Council Success

Often other jurisdictions will ask, "How is the Texas State Council so successful year after year?" They are hoping for a solution that promises to resolve complex issues quickly and easily. Sorry to say, there isn't. **It just comes down to hard work!**

STATE OFFICERS

RON ALONZO
STATE DEPUTY
361-947-1346
SKRONALONZO1202@GMAIL.COM

**MOST REVEREND BISHOP
MICHAEL MULVEY**
STATE CHAPLAIN
325-651-7500

ROBERT "BOB" GOSS
STATE SECRETARY
334-538-1415
BOB@GOSSLAW.COM

DEREK RABEY
STATE TREASURER
210-288-7353
SKDR2001@GMAIL.COM

DAVID PELLIS
STATE ADVOCATE
817-807-2982
PELSD66@GMAIL.COM

REED FONTENOT
STATE WARDEN
501-920-0102
REED.FONTENOT@ATT.NET

TERRY FRUGE
IMMEDIATE PAST STATE
DEPUTY
713-417-0751
TBFRUGE@COMCAST.NET



**JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1**

FINISH LINE



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

For us to be successful in the second half of the year, we are going to have to hit on all cylinders. Schedule those Church Drives, work those Reactivations, let us know where there is a potential New Council Development, work those Pending Applications, these men are just one click away from joining our Order, get those men in your councils prospect tab vetted and to an exemplification and converted into your council, hold those exemplifications regularly and often.

We aspire to invite every Catholic man to join the Knights of Columbus and to extend our charitable reach as widely as possible.

Save the Date

Texas State Council Knights of Columbus, 122nd Annual State Convention, April 24-26, 2026, to be held in Dallas, TX.

Ron Alonzo
State Deputy
skronalonzo1202@gmail.com

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 January is shown on the next page.

STATE DIRECTORS

BILL TILLOTSON
MEMBERSHIP
817-690-0556
WILLIAM-
TILLOTSON@YAHOO.COM

DAVID ZEIGLER
STAR COUNCIL
903-926-0776
ZIGSR@ATT.NET

JOE JACOBO
CHARITY
432-638-5578
JOEJACOBOKOFC@YAHOO.COM

RICK GUZMAN
PROGRAMS
210-215-7196
\$KRICK.GUZMAN6219@GMAIL.COM

CHAD SANDWELL
EDUCATION & TRAINING
409-656-4284
CHADSANDWELL@GMAIL.COM

GREGORY BROWN
EVANGELIZATION &
FAITH FORMATION
940-247-1721
GGB@ME.COM

JUAN CARLOS CARLIN
INSURANCE LIAISON
956-206-0407
JUAN_CARLIN@KOF_C.ORG



**JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1**

FINISH LINE



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Texas
State Council

MEMBERSHIP CONT.

Division 1		Division 2		Division 3	
Diocese	Goal	Diocese	Goal	Diocese	Goal
Austin	48	Brownsville	17	Amarillo	9
Dallas	36	Corpus Christi	17	Beaumont	11
Fort Worth	38	San Angelo	16	El Paso	15
Gal-Houston	75	Victoria	21	Laredo	7
San Antonio	53			Lubbock	10

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](#).

We know that December into January is a traditionally slower time of year. But we need to hit the ground running this month. Lent starts on February 18, so we want to get ahead of pace before then.

One strategy to employ is Growth Teams – for your council, district or Diocese. What are these teams?

- The GK/DD/DioD appoints a Growth Director to oversee all membership programs and recruitment activities.
- The GK/DD/DioD appoints a Growth Committee. He selects successful recruiters or sales-oriented members.
- The Growth Director and committee members form two-man recruitment teams.
- The Growth Director and committee set goals and plan specific recruitment, retention and insurance promotion activities for the entire year.

STATE OFFICE STAFF

CARLOS GONZALEZ
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
512-497-8779
CARLOS@TKOFC.ORG

KARI JORDAN
STATE ADMIN
ACCOUNTANT
512-442-1492
KJORDAN@TKOFC.ORG

KATHLEEN MCGLOUGHLIN
STATE ADMIN COUNCIL
RECORDS
512-442-1492
KATHLEENM@TKOFC.ORG

TEXAS STATE COUNCIL
1033 LA POSADA DR.
SUITE 100
AUSTIN, TX 78752
512-442-1492 - OFFICE



**JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1**

FINISH LINE



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

MEMBERSHIP CONT.

- Plan a full schedule of exemplifications.
- Identify and schedule recruitment methods that best suit the area's needs and goals: church drives, open houses, team recruiting, etc.
- Set membership goals (exceed quota, achieve Star Council, break previous council recruitment record, etc.).
- Get the ENTIRE council involved. One Knight, One Man, Every Mass.

Employ whatever strategy will work best for your council. But sitting back and hoping growth happens is not a strategy! **HOPE IS NOT A PLANNING TOOL!!!**

Vivat Jesus!

Bill Tillotson, Membership Director

817.690.0556

william-tillotson@yahoo.com

STAR COUNCIL

Brothers,

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!". 2 Corinthians 5:17

Happy New Year! We are half way done with the Fraternal Year! Are you at least 50% of your goals for Star Council?

Work on your Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity - Form 1728 (Star Council). Have it completed by the latest on January 31, 2026. Supreme will accept them now!

We have 120 Councils at 100% or more of their membership goal. We have 324 Councils that are Safe Environment compliant. However, only 66 Councils have both! This is a fixable problem within your Council. You control the process with getting compliant. If you missed the deadline, simply resubmit the Form 365 to restart the time clock. This is a Star Council Requirement! Worthy Diocesan Deputies, encourage your Diocese to be 100% Safe Environment Compliant asap. We are over 1/3 of our Star Council goal of 300 in membership, let's not wait anymore to be compliant. We can do it!



**JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1**

FINISH LINE



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

STAR COUNCIL CONT.

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

January 2026 - Recruit

January – Diocesan Conferences – make an effort to attend!

January 31, 2026 – Fraternal Annual Survey – Form 1728 Due – Star Council

January 31, 2026 – Form 10784 – Special Olympics - LSAFE

January/February 2026 – Local Freethrow Competitions

February 2026 - Recruit

March 2026 - Recruit

March 1, 2026 – State Program Award, Family of Year, or Chaplain of the Year
Applications due – LSAFED

March 7, 2026 – State Freethrow Competition – San Antonio, Texas

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! Get those old options and ideas out the door, bring in the new ones and let's get this done! You can be Star Council!

Vivat Jesus!

David Zeigler, Star Council Director

Going for 300!

903-926-0776; zigsr@att.net

CHARITY

Worthy Texas Knights,

May the New Year bring health, happiness, and love to you and your families. As we welcome the new year, we also celebrate the first six months of our fraternal year and the good accomplished through charity across Texas.

As many focus on personal health, the next six months are equally important for the strength of the Texas State Council. Let us finish strong and build momentum for the next fraternal year by supporting our major charity programs.



**JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1**

FINISH LINE



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

CHARITY CONT.

Texas Special Olympics

- Nominate a deserving brother for the Chick O'Connor Memorial Award (nomination form at www.tkofc.org).
- All councils must submit **Form #10784** to report Special Olympics activities, including manpower or financial contributions.
- Councils may report a **\$0.25 per active member donation** toward state charity goals.
- Forms are due to **Supreme At Will**; send copies to forms@tkofc.org.

Cardinal Medeiros Fund & Educational Grants

- Purchase a **\$1,000 fellowship** to support Catholic school grants and higher education or trade school assistance.
- Encourage applicants to apply by **February 28**. Details are on the TSC website or available from **Leo Saenz or Ken Orze**.

American Wheelchair Mission

- Each council is encouraged to purchase **one wheelchair (\$150)**.
- Expand Wheelchair Sundays into new communities.
- Contact **Bill Weber or Brian Nelson**, or your Diocesan Deputy, to get started.

Bishop Thomas J. Flanagan Fund (Retired & Infirm Priests)

- Support the fund by purchasing the **TSC License Plate** or the new **TSCC Bumper Magnet**.
- Contact **Dan Stoffel** for details.

TSC Emergency Response

- Identify your **Diocesan Emergency Response Coordinator (ERC)** and appoint a local council ERC.
- Conduct training, establish communication plans, and **budget \$500** for local emergency preparedness.

Thank you for your continued service and dedication to your communities and the Texas State Council.

Vivat Jesus,
Joe Jacobo
Texas State Council
Charity Director



**JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1**

FINISH LINE



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Texas
State Council

PROGRAMS

Soccer Challenge

Well Christmas came and went and so did the State Soccer Challenge with the Fort Worth Diocese dominating this year. Congratulations to all the winners. By the way, the Galveston/Houston Archdiocese dominated this program last year. Special thanks to all the Brother Knights who assisted in with this program. We had a 100 percent increase of Diocesan participation this year. I pray this trend continues.

Now comes the judging of the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Diocesan Winners along with the Catholic Essay Contest Diocesan Winners. I will definitely put the Guzman family to work like I did last year. Good luck to all the Diocesan Winners.

P.S. Please pray for safe travel of Our Worthy State Deputy and all the State Directors who will be traveling throughout our Great State in January conducting the Winter Conferences.

New Programs

Eight new Faith in Action programs have been released as part of our efforts to welcome more Hispanic men into the Order and better serve the spiritual and cultural needs of their families.

Each of these programs is a "Featured" program, earning councils 2 program credits toward the Columbian Award. By using these programs, councils can better appeal to the men and families in their local communities and create an environment where men will want to join the Order.

FAITH

Viva Christa Rey!
Imitating Juan Diego

COMMUNITY

Celebrating Our Catholic Heritage
Bright Futures

FAMILY

Remembering Our Faithfully Departed
Quinceanera Support

LIFE

Gospel of Life
Holy Hour For Life w/ Our Lady

Rick Guzman
State Programs Director
Vivat Jesus!



JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1

FINISH LINE



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Texas
State Council

EDUCATION, TRAINING & COMMUNICATIONS

How To Find The Fraternal Training That's Right For You

Visit kofc.org/training to locate online training for state, council, district and assembly officers, an archive of fraternal webinars, and important resources that will assist you in navigating your leadership role.

Our helpful list of [Suggested Training by Officer Role](#) highlights the training sessions that are recommended for your officer position. Training is reviewed on a continuing basis, so you will always get the most up-to-date information. Best of all, these on-demand sessions are available to view at any time, on your own schedule, and the average length of each session is only 30 minutes!

Diocesan & District Deputies, if you weren't able to make it to the Mid-Year Meeting last month in Corpus Christi, I am providing the link to DD102 ([DD102 Presentation](#))

New Customer Service Email For Supplies Online

Our U.S. Supplies Online vendor SLWM has rebranded under the name Supply Logic and their new email domains will have supplylogic.com in them. Please note that the new customer service email for Supplies Online is customerservice@Supplylogic.com. Emails sent to the old SLWM address will be forwarded for a brief period of time to ensure there are no disruptions.

Time To Prepare For AMI

We spent a lot of time at the Mid-Year Meeting discussing the Affiliate Membership Initiative. Here is a simple step by step process for submitting your members for the Affiliate Member List. ([Affiliate List Submission Process](#)). If you have any questions, you can reach out to your Financial Secretary Trainer.



JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1

FINISH LINE



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

EDUCATION, TRAINING & COMMUNICATIONS CONT.

Here's what you need to know for the next 90 days!

-January - 3rd Quarter Begins

- January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother Of God
- January 24 - March For Life Austin
- January 31 - Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Due (Form 1728)
- January 31 - Partnership Profile w/ Special Olympics Report Due
- January 31 - Charles 'Chic' O'Connor Applications Due

-February - 3rd Quarter Underway

- Recruit, Recruit, Recruit
- Diocesan Free Throw Contests Should be Completed by Feb. 25th
- Get Your State Award Applications Ready & Sent in By March 1st.
- Keep scheduling Membership Drives & Exemplifications

-March - 3rd Quarter Ending

- March 1 - All State Award Applications due for Each Director's Area
- March 1 - International Wheelchair Day
- March 1 - Educational Grant Application Due
- March 7 - State Free Throw Contest (San Antonio)
- Weekend of March 14th & 21st - State Bowling Tournament - Humble
- March 29 - Founder's Day

Chad Sandwell

Texas State Council

Education, Training & Communications Director

chadsandwell@gmail.com

409-656-4284



**JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1**

FINISH LINE



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

EVANGELIZATION & FAITH FORMATION

Grace and Peace Worthy Brothers,

Brothers, let's get great at the things we already do good. To be "1st in Faith as in Charity", we must aim 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.

"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

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>

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.



**JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1**

FINISH LINE



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

EVANGELIZATION & FAITH FORMATION CONT.

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.

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.

Diocesan EFF Coordinators:

Amarillo - [Joshua Correa](#)

Austin - [Deacon Phc 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](#)

Galveston/Houston - [Don Hensley](#)

Laredo - [Hector Chapa](#)



**JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1**

FINISH LINE



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

EVANGELIZATION & FAITH FORMATION CONT.

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, Victor

Gregory Brown

ggb@me.com

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



**JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1**

FINISH LINE



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Texas
State Council

STATE INSURANCE LIAISON

Brothers, Happy New Year!

The Knights of Columbus has very exciting news to share as we begin 2026! Beginning January 1, 2026, a dividend increase took effect for eligible participating insurance policies, for the second year in a row. What does an increased dividend rate mean for you? Dividends are amounts that may be paid annually from the surplus funds of the Knights of Columbus and are paid on an equitable basis by class as determined by the Board of Directors. 1 These dividends can be used in various ways, including to:

- Purchase paid up additions, which is the default option.
- Place the dividends on deposit and earn additional interest.
- Receive the dividends in cash.
- Reduce billed premium.
- Reduce an existing loan.

Guided by the vision of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, we are dedicated to supporting the financial security of our members. Over the past 30 years, Knights of Columbus has paid more than \$8 billion in dividends to those we serve. I would love to sit down with you in the coming year to discuss how this dividend increase may help you achieve your financial security goals. If you have any questions about this, or any of the benefits of having a Knights of Columbus insurance policy, please come chat with me, and we'll schedule a time to meet. Thank you!



**JAN 2026
ISSUE NO 1**

Vivat Jesus!

Juan Carlos Carlin

Texas State Insurance Liaison

956-206-0407

Juan.carlin@kofc.org