

... from the Texas State Council



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30-60-90 Day Outlook

April 2021

Be Not Afraid



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From the Texas State Council:

Let's get it done. Back to Basics, No Excuses

Alfredo Vela, Texas State Deputy

State Chaplains Message: "Pray Constantly"

As State Chaplain for the Knights of Columbus, I have the opportunity to learn about many service projects being done across our state. At one of our officer meetings last year a police officer from Fort Worth gave me a wristband with a blue line that says "Shield a Badge with a Prayer." Along with the wristband was a card on which I could write the name of a particular officer and commit to praying for him or her regularly. I've been praying for this officer ever since.

The action of offering a prayer for someone may be the most valuable service project any of us can perform. Prayer itself is the foundation of the Church, without which all of our actions would make us look like the "whited sepulchers" scorned by Jesus (Matt 23:27). After Jesus ascended into heaven, forty days after Easter, the Apostles, Mary and other women and men prayed "constantly" (Acts 1:14). They had no idea what their future held, yet they knew in their heart the importance of coming together to pray.

As we begin this Easter season we live in a world with much uncertainty and anxiety. In the middle of this tension Christians can join those original disciples in praying for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon ourselves and the world. What I've come to realize in life is that often it is through these times of stress that I can come to accept and trust in God's presence at all times. Everything I say or do depends on God. God is the One who gives me the ability to write these words and you the ability to read these words.

For the Christian we have come to believe that not only does God exist, even more God chooses to communicate with people. Those original disciples who gathered in prayer were real people with true experiences. Mary knew Jesus personally from the moment of His conception to the moment He ascended to heaven. We rely upon their words, and the power of the Holy Spirit that was given to the Apostles to hand on to future generations the truth of Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world.

May our families be united in prayer this Easter season, with hope and trust in the power of the Holy Spirit! Here is a prayer to the Holy Spirit written many years ago by St.

Augustine: "Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.

Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.

Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy.

Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.

Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Amen."

Vivat Jesus! Most Reverend Bishop Brendan Cahill, TSC State Chaplain



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Be Not Afraid

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Associate State Chaplains Message:

Brothers: Holy week is the reminder of the bright light of Resurrection after an intense dark eclipse of injustice, violence, and death. The Pandemic, the civil unrest, the Shutdown and the Cold Snap have been dark days in the lives of many of our fellow Texans and brother knights. Many have lost loved ones, jobs, and lifestyles. I do not believe that God wills these crosses. The lesson of Christ is that a loving heart cannot be deterred, perverted, or embittered by any Cross. But rather that love shines bold, strong, and intense when a knight reaches out to the disenfranchised, the broken, and the overwhelmed saying, "You are not alone, you will not be left behind." I am amazed at your response at these crosses. I am inspired by them, and grateful to see our Emblem at food drives, blood drives, vaccination lines, shelters: anywhere disaster relief is needed, there is a Knight of Columbus! What better moment to recruit and insure, is there? What greater proof for our Order's need to the community, priests and good men. Men who have answered the call to serve, give and share. These crosses have shown us what Fr. McGivney saw when our Order was founded. It is what Pope Urban III saw when he called Holy Knighthoods into being! It is the ultimate assurance to God's favorite ones—the poor, the abandoned, and the disenfranchised—"You are not alone, you will not be left behind, but will you join us?" Brothers, always in prosperity and adversity: Serve, document, announce and recruit.

I buried two men who died suddenly this year and they left family behind. One, the wife had to sell the house and their belongings to move into a small apartment because that is all she could afford at her age to survive. The second Dad who's oldest son had just turned seventeen, had to drop out of high school so his younger brothers wouldn't have to. He was going to be the first to graduate, now he is the, 'Man of the house.' It will be hard for him to study and get a better job. He may be too old for when things are stable enough for him to join the military or begin to seriously date. Brother, we have the best insurance in the land: Why is this still happening to Catholic Men? Who failed to recruit, explain and support those men? The enchilada sale is a kind gesture like the go-fund-me account but; we have the best insurance company in the Land! The work of an Enchilada Sale versus a Fraternal Night does not compare. The reach of the food sale versus a death benefit does not compare because, we have the best insurance in the land! Brothers we have to recruit and insure. Especially in adversity. Especially if we want to see the Hope of the Resurrection in the dark eclipses of life and society. I don't know if that young man will see it... Vivat Jesus!

Rev. Mark N. P. Salas
Associate State Chaplain

Education, Training, & Communications:

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. Check out the Star Guide Section on the State website & download the latest version. Email all forms to the correct Supreme email address (located in the Star Guide) & to the Texas State Council at forms@tkofc.org. Copy all forms to your District & Diocesan Deputy.

April – 4th Quarter begins. The Home Stretch. **Let's Get it Done!**

April 4 - Easter.

April 30 – First Day of Texas State Convention – Awards & 1st day of Training
Report Church Drives

Form a Nominating Committee for Next Year's Officers

May – 4th Quarter 1/3 done. **Back to Basics.**

May 1 - 2 – Texas State Convention Continues in Houston

Be Not Afraid

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May 9 – Mother's Day
May 15 - Elections for Next Fraternal Year Officers begin
May 31 – Memorial Day
Plan a live Financial Secretary Training
Begin Preparing Columbian Award – SP-7

June – 4th Quarter 2/3 done. Verify all Star Council Requirements complete. **No Excuses!**

June 15 – Last day for elections

June 20 – Father's Day

June 30 – Columbian Award – Form SP-7 (Send in as early as possible) – CANNOT BE LATE!

June 30 - Report of Officers – From 185 for Fraternal Year 21-22

June 30 – District Deputy Semi-Annual Audit - Form 944B

Leave No Neighbor Behind reports as required –

<https://www.surveymzmo.com/s3/5521191/Leave-No-Neighbor-Behind>

FS Training Classes:

Apr 27, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time

https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tJwpcyqrDkoHNA0HosPKJEpyilql_71iMO0

May 25, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time

<https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tJUkc-GgrT8pEtSoFVJTQtkV8cuNnVMTjCoM>

Jun 22, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time

https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tJwvcOmpqTMIHdYO_LgW1om59EYOe8DAU3Mr

Feel free to contact me for any assistance. We have 3 months to put Texas at #1!

Vivat Jesus!

David Zeigler, Education, Training, & Communications (ETC) Director

Membership:

Don't quit recruiting until the Final Buzzer Sounds!

A side note about membership, taken from observations during the NCAA March Madness.

There are many talented teams in the group of 68 that started the tournament. The ones that advance are the ones that play a complete game and finish the second half stronger than the first. Many teams can play well for 30 minutes. Those that train and have a game plan for the whole 60 minutes succeed over those that concentrate too much on the first half.

Knights' leaders would benefit from managing membership as a full 12-month project. Concentrating all the effort into a few recruitment events a year, deprives many good men of the opportunity to become a Knight of Columbus. Do not get me wrong, recruiting is the cornerstone of membership. This year we have recruited 2,603 men into the Knights, most of them online. With three months left, let us stay focused on finish the second half strong. Have you asked someone to join the Knights of Columbus? It's not too late to start recruiting.

For those councils that have been recruiting using the E-Membership/Online – PROMO CODE MCGIVNEY2020, keep doing what you're doing. Work on converting those men from online and into your council. Coordinate an admission committee and an exemplification for that new brother and get them active into your home council. Mentor to those new Knights and get them involved in recruiting. It's time for a full court press in recruiting.

Push yourself again and again. Don't give an inch until the final buzzer sounds. – Larry Bird

Let's get it done. Back to Basics, No Excuses

Vivat Jesus! Ron Alonzo, Membership Director

Programs:

Program Director's Reminders:

The success of any council comes from the success of its programs. Successful programs bring new members. Without these two, a council begins to fail.

The key to any successful program is planning. Get your planning done now!

• April Reminders –

- Good Friday Family Program – April 2
- This is the last Quarter of the Fraternal Year – what programs do you still lack for Star Council? Plan them now.
- Conduct a Holy Hour – in person or virtual
- Get ready for the 117th State Convention
- Submit the Family of the Month (for March) by April 15
- Submit any Fraternal Program Report (#10784) for each activity you had last month.

• May Reminders –

- The Seminarians will be leaving school so don't forget them. Send them a note and some money to help them through the summer.
- Are any of your Seminarians getting ordained? Have the council show him that you support him and will be praying for him.
- Have you conducted at least four programs in each of the Life, Family, Community, Faith categories? You have two months to get them done.
- May 15th is National Law Enforcement day – consider having a Blue Mass this month and start a Shield a Badge program.
- Submit the Family of the Month (for April) by May 15
- Submit any Fraternal Program Report (#10784) for each activity you had last month.
- Submit your Columbian Award SP-7 now. If there are any issues, you have time to get it corrected.

• June Reminders –

- This is the last month of the fraternal year – This is the key form that needs to be submitted now:
 - **Columbian Award / SP7 - This is the only report that is NOT accepted after the due date. Do it TODAY!**
- Conduct the new **Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour**. All resources can be found on Supreme website.
- Consider an Ultrasound and/or Wheelchair fundraiser.
- Who will need some help this summer? Work out a plan to assist those in need with yard work or house repairs. Helping Hands / Leave No Neighbor Behind.
- Submit the Family of the Month (for May) by June 15
- Submit any Fraternal Program Report (#10784) for each activity you had last month.

Remember: Every Program is an opportunity for every Knight to put their Faith in Action and step Into the Breach.

Your Program Team is here and available to help you throughout the year.

Pat Henz, Program Director

Star Council Awards

Brother Knights,

We are through nearly 3/4 of the Fraternal Year and the State Convention is just around the corner! To earn Star Council means that you are doing everything right. It does concern me that we have a number of Brother Knights that have not yet completed the mandatory Safe Environment training. When we took on our leadership positions we agreed that Safe Environment was an important priority. Our Worthy State Advocate, Bob Goss, has sent out recent communications on the urgency to honor this commitment. Time is getting short in this year and we need everyone to do their part. Our team stands ready to assist. The Star Tracker lists the status of the Grand Knight, Program Director, Family Director and Community Director. If you are not yet compliant, we can help. Or, you can call the Office of Youth Protection and they will help you. That number is (203) 752-4554.

Supreme has revised requirements to earn Star Council effective March 1, 2021! Required programs are down to 10 from 16. Membership quota's are reduced 20% and if you hold one Fraternal Benefit night between March 1 - June 30, you will get credit for two. This should put many more councils in play to earn this coveted recognition. Our Star Council Award Team is making phone calls to Grand Knights to offer our assistance in meeting your goals. Let's get this done! No excuses!

Vivat Jesus!

Reed Fontenot, Star Council Awards Director

Council Growth

The Final quarter of the Fraternal year is upon us. This is the time to finish strong, to ensure that Blessed Fr. McGivney's prayer of a Knights presence in every Parish and Mission is attained.

Congratulations! To Galv-Hou Diocesan Deputy John Hinojosa one more **New Council:**
STs Simon/Jude Parish, Spring, TX – Council #17653

Congratulations! To San Angelo Diocesan Deputy Joe Jacobo First **New Council** for this Fraternal Year.

Holy Redeemer Parish, Odessa, TX – Council # 17679

Congratulations! To San Antonio Diocesan Deputy David Colton First **Reactivation** for this Fraternal Year.

San Juan de Los Lagos Parish, San Antonio, TX – Council 9017

April Showering INCENTIVES, INCENTIVES, Galore, just like Easter Eggs, colorful and abundant for each New Council and Reactivation, (Meeting Protocol)!

These Diocesan Incentives for each Diocesan Deputy to use for his Diocesan incentive program: **New Council - \$500 or Reactivation - \$250**

Texas State Council Growth Diocesan Report

DIOCESE	New Councils		Reactivations		Round Tables	
	Goal	Total	Goal	Total	Goal	Total
AMARILLO	1	0	1	0	8	0
AUSTIN	1	0	1	2	17	18
BEAUMONT	1	0	1	0	9	11
BROWNSVILLE	1	0	3	1	19	32
CORPUS CHRISTI	1	0	3	1	15	4
DALLAS	1	0	1	0	14	0
EL PASO	1	0	1	0	11	1
FORT WORTH	1	0	1	0	11	30

GALVESTON/HOUSTON	1	2	1	1	19	0
LAREDO	1	0	3	1	8	0
LUBBOCK	1	1	1	0	12	12
SAN ANGELO	1	1	1	0	12	6
SAN ANTONIO	1	0	3	1	19	5
TYLER	1	0	1	0	13	3
VICTORIA	1	0	0	0	13	1
TOTALS	15	4	22	7	200	123

Legend	
in progress	
met goal (Full Protocol)	

The Council Growth Team is ready and willing to assist with your Diocesan Council Growth Activities.

BE NOT AFRAID and have NO EXCUSES, Let's Get it Done! God Bless Texas! God Bless the Knights! Vivat Jesus!

Carlos X. Martinez, Council Growth Director

Texas State Council Charities

As we find ourselves in the early days of the Easter Season, this also marks the last 3 months of this fraternal year. Easter as well as Spring bring in seasons of new beginnings. Let Easter inspire you to make a difference in your Diocese. Contribute to State Council Charities today! On behalf of every Bishop across this great state, I am requesting your support to make their distribution as large as it can possibly be for this fraternal year. The support of their charitable programs could not be more important than it is now amid this International Pandemic.

As mentioned in the March FINISH LINE, the desire of the Charity Team is to see all Councils within Texas, State Council Charities active before we gather at this year's State Council Convention. If your council has not yet taken the opportunity to contribute towards your assigned Charity Goal, we encourage you to do whatever you can to support the Texas State Council and your Bishop. Please ensure your council is counted among those supporting your Bishop.

If there is anything you need assistance with related to any of the areas under State Council Charity, American Wheelchair Mission, Bishop Thomas J. Flanagan Fund, Cardinal Medeiros Trust, Educational Grants, Emergency Response, Fundraising, or Special Olympics, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any member of the Charity Team. All our contact information can be found within the Star Guide.

We are looking forward to seeing your Council's Delegates at this year's Convention!

BE NOT AFRAID! Vivat Jesus!

Derek W. Rabey, Charity Director

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