

... from the Texas State Council



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30-60-90 Day Outlook

October 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: "Immersing the Family in the Contemplation of Christ our Peace"

The theme for our Rosary Congress this year comes from the teaching of St. John Paul II in *Rosarium Virginiae Mariae* (October 16, 2002). Promoting devotion to the Rosary for Catholics around the world he wrote:

"At the start of a millennium which began with the terrifying attacks of 11 September 2001, a millennium which witnesses every day in numerous parts of the world fresh scenes of bloodshed and violence, to rediscover the Rosary means to immerse oneself in contemplation of the mystery of Christ who "is our peace", since he made "the two of us one, and broke down the dividing wall of hostility" (*Eph 2:14*)." (*RVM #6*)

During the week of October 3-10 there will be plenty of opportunities for prayer, fasting and spiritual offerings in which we can focus our thoughts on Jesus, who is the source of peace. As our offerings are joined with the sacrificial love of Jesus and the sacrifices of our brothers and sisters around the diocese, we can pray boldly – presenting to Jesus our specific intentions. The Letter to the Hebrews shows us the example of our prayer in the prayer of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane: "In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission" (*Hebrews 5:7*).

From his heavenly throne Jesus now hears our prayers and supplications! For this year's Rosary Congress I'm asking us to pray for some particular intentions in addition to our personal intentions:

First, we pray for peace throughout the world, especially peace in the Middle East; for an end to the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan; and for God's protection for all our military personnel, especially those serving overseas.

Second, we pray for our families, that the Holy Spirit may give us wisdom and courage; that our homes may be safe "nests" where life is nurtured and cherished; and that we may be open to the forgiveness and mercy that flows from the heart of Jesus.

Third, we pray for those who feel distanced from Jesus and feel "lost", that the Holy Spirit may give them hope; that we may have listening hearts and be instruments of healing; that the Church may be open and welcoming to all those in need

Fourth, we pray in reparation for the sins committed by our bishops and priests, that the Holy Spirit may bring healing to those who have been abused; that those who have committed grave sins may be led to conversion and accountability; that the Church may



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defend and proclaim the value of every human life.

May the week of our Rosary Congress bless all of our families as we turn our hearts and our minds to our Prince of Peace, and join with one another in offering prayers and supplications. God bless you; let's keep each other in prayer, **Vivat Jesus!**

+ Most Reverend Bishop Brendan Cahill, TSC State Chaplain

Associate State Chaplains Message:

We keep hearing about "cancellation culture" that has included many Catholic figures such as Fray Junipero Serra in California and Christopher Columbus. This month many will vandalize statues or remove them in favor of "Indigenous Day." Many are young who still see the world through ideals and a romanticized future state of affairs. Many are myopically ridged and caustic iconoclasts who see the world as black and white, (I'm right, you're evil.) As Catholics who go to confession monthly, we understand reality is more subtle, developing, and gray. It is why we do not despair of nor presume God's Mercy and Love when it comes to going to Confession or Holy Communion at Sunday Eucharist.

I agree that there should be a "Native Nations Day" because their story is important and of consequence to the world. Columbus Day, which marks the definitive arrival of European culture and people, is also something to celebrate. For the Knights of Columbus, the definitive arrival of the Gospel of Life to the Western Hemisphere is what made it possible for us to grow up as Catholics knowing Christ in the Eucharist and in His Gospel as His Church. As in Europe, the arrival of the Faith in Britain, Ireland, France (Gaul), Spain/Portugal (Hispaniola) was of consequence and monumental. Many inventions, events, and ideas leave their imprint in the fate of peoples, nations, and cultures. The Corona Virus spreading as quickly as it did was due to how interconnected the world is, which also lead to developing a vaccine as quickly as we did. September 11th and all its fallout. The assassination of Martin Luther King. These Holidays (Holy/Sacred Days) are never black and white. They are markers for reflection, understanding, and motivation.

This Columbus day, as "Sons of Columbus" who bear his name, we continue to honor a Catholic Man who was consequential to the world that we live in as Americans. Many may choose not to celebrate this day as many do not celebrate their birthdays. As Texas Knights of Columbus, we use this occasion to honor the spirit of "courageous creativity" that the Supreme Convention focused on this year. Columbus Day is a patriotic day but it is also a Catholic achievement day. The Old World governments on this hemisphere have gone, but the Faith and the Church remain! Pray for our nation on October 11th by going to Mass and offering your Holy Communion for the good of the Order. Invite three men to join our Order in honor of Columbus' ships.

Say what you will, but Columbus was a capable navigator. He didn't arrive in India or China as he thought, but he quickly adapted and the Queen of Spain insured the Faith would be taken and preached. Catholic Christianity is still the largest group in this hemisphere. We remain in solidarity with the disenfranchised and abandoned in our society. We still support Native Americans in their amazing beauty found in their way of life and understanding. One of our American saints is Kateri Tekakwitha, the "Lily of the Mohawks;" who blended her faith with her love of nature. KofC's are a huge patron of her shrine! We are not blind to the darkness in history any more than to the sin that lead Christ to Calvary. But St Paul remind us—*where sin is, grace over abounds.*

October is also the Month of the Rosary: As ancient military orders of knights would carry their sword; we are now vested with the rosary and told to "carry it with you always and pray it as often as we can." Why is it our "weapon of mass construction?" When we pray it, we

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voice the Life of Christ, our prayers, and our Creed. Therefore, by contemplating the joyful, sorrowful, and glorious moments of Christ's life we learn how to sanctify all joyful, sorrowful, and glorious moments in our life. Like a Knight who trained daily and was always ready for attack or defense, so too the Knights of Columbus are ready to respond in active Faith, Hope, and Charity in any joyful, sorrowful and glorious moment by the Rosary! Let us invoke Our Lady to strengthen and grow our Order in our prayers.

May your councils keep taking the Gospel of Christ to unknown circumstances. May you continue to be inspiring pillars of strength, courage, and innovation in your communities. May the light of Faith shine bright radiant in your lives and in those you encounter his year through the various "Faith in Action" programs. Again, Happy Columbus Day! **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. The Diocesan Conference Slides are available on the State Website in English & Spanish. 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.

October – 2nd Quarter begins. **Let's Get it Done!**

October 7th – Our Lady of the Holy Rosary – Schedule Rosary or Holy Hour

October 10th - Supreme Per Capita due (waived for July – December 21)

October 12th – **Columbus Day** - Church Membership Drives around this National Holiday.

October 15th – Form 10784 Family of the Month (for September) due

October 21st – FS Training - 08:00 PM Central Time - Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpc-6gpzgsE9aFGoew1rN8Z8e8pTLuxtmk>

Submit a Fraternal Program Report (#10784) for each activity you had this month.

District Meetings

November – 2nd Quarter 1/3 done. **Back to Basics.**

November 14th – World Day of the Poor – Plan a "Helping Hand" event

November 11th – Veterans Day

November 15th – Form 10784 Family of the Month (for October) due

November 18th – FS Training - 08:00 PM Central Time - Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMlduihqTlqGtOJrV4pRyM4ybOO7cYyAm2c>

November 22nd – Transfer of Silver Rose from Oklahoma to Fort Worth Diocese & from Arkansas to Tyler Diocese

November 25th – Thanksgiving - Plan a Food for Families Event

November 29th – Transfer of Silver Rose from Louisiana to Beaumont Diocese

Diocesan Deputies start planning your Midyear Conference for January 2022

Start Judging Your Council & District Essay & Poster Contest

December – 2nd Quarter 2/3 done. **No Excuses!**

December 3-5th – Midyear Meeting – Round Rock, TX – All Diocesan & District Deputies

December 12th – Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 15th – 1st Billing for New Fraternal Year should already be sent. The Retention Process has begun. Good time to start gathering information for the Annual Fraternal Survey form #1728

December 15th – Form 10784 Family of the Month (for November) due

December 25th – Christmas

December 31st – Quick Start Award deadline (State Charities & State Per capita)
District Deputy Semi Annual Audit Form #944a Due

For some of your FS Training needs click on this link:

<http://craigmod.us/fstraining>

Leave No Neighbor Behind reports as required –

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

Spend some time surfing the Supreme Website. Click on this link

<https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/webinars/111920.html>

This webinar will help in Cultivating Parish Success.

Spend some time surfing the Texas State Council Website. Click on this link:

<https://fundraising.tkofc.org/> To donate to State Charity to make your State Charity Goal.

Feel free to contact me for any assistance.

Vivat Jesus!

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

Membership:

Texas, you did an outstanding job in the first quarter in recruitment. Let's take that momentum into this next quarter and finish the first half of this fraternal year strong in recruitment.

Fall – October Council Church Drive - Planning your Church Drive

In addition to constantly extending the offer of membership to every eligible man, every council should hold at least two Church recruitment drives each fraternal year. Church drives allow your council the opportunity to invite every man and his family to be a part of your council.

The success of your Church recruitment drive will largely depend on the planning and preparations your council makes leading up to it. ***Week of drive:***

Practice responsibilities (Pulpit announcement, ambassador role, Prospect landing Page) confirm Plans with celebrant(s) confirm all knights will wear similar team attire (kofc polos, badges, etc.) confirm raffle Prize and logistics.

Have a plan to follow up with each prospect within 48 hours.

All Council/District Active

Every Council Active program is designed to encourage all councils to recruit at least one new member during the fraternal year. To be considered Recruitment Active, a council must recruit at least one new member during the fraternal year. Successful councils (a) have a recruitment program throughout the fraternal year, (b) utilize Supreme and State Council resources and materials (many of them free), and (c) schedule, host, and conduct Exemplifications. All Grand Knights are encouraged to strive towards attaining Council (recruitment) Active status during their term in office. If every Grand Knight would take into consideration our mantra, ONE MEMBER, PER COUNCIL, PER MONTH, this could easily be achieved.

E-Membership/Exemplifications

Continue to use Free Online Membership, using Supreme Promo Code ***MCGIVNEY2020***.

In-Person-Exemplifications

BEST PRACTICES FOR CONDUCTING IN-PERSON EXEMPLIFICATIONS

Conducting degrees and initiating men into the Order is not new for any of us. It is one of the most gratifying things we do as leaders in the Knights of Columbus.

- The venue must be set-up appropriately.

- All necessary materials (Rosaries, Lapel pins, baldrics, rope, string, etc.) should be secured and on-hand at each exemplification site.
- Degree teams should be well-rehearsed.
- The exemplification(s) should be well-publicized.

If you follow these guidelines and make prudent decisions to keep your members and prospects safe – it is possible to conduct in-person exemplifications while following all COVID-19 guidelines.

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

Vivat Jesus! Ron Alonzo, Membership Director

Programs:

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!

- **October Reminders –**
 - 7th – Our Lady of the Holy Rosary – Schedule Rosary Program or Holy Hour
 - Columbus Day – October 12 – Hold an Exemplification
 - 40 Days for Life going on this month. This will help earn your ACE Wings.
 - Conduct the Catholic Citizenship Essay.
 - Conduct District / Diocesan level Soccer Challenge
 - Order Keep Christ in Christmas Kits.
 - Submit the Family of the Month (for Sept) by Oct 15
 - Submit any Fraternal Program Report (#10784) for each activity you had last month.
 - Remember to schedule the Silver Rose
- **November Reminders –**
 - Election Day Nov 2nd – Do your Patriotic duty and vote!
 - Conduct District / Diocesan level Soccer Challenge
 - Judging for the Catholic Citizenship Essay.
 - Submit the Family of the Month (for Oct) by Nov 15
 - Conduct Keep Christ in Christmas programs.
 - Thanksgiving – Helping Hands / Feed the Hungry / Coats for Kids / Leave No Neighbor Behind – a lot of opportunity to help those in need.
- **December Reminders –**
 - Conduct Keep Christ in Christmas programs.
 - Don't forget your Seminarians this month. A nice Christmas care package goes a long way.
 - Conduct the Consecration to the Holy Family
 - Submit the Family of the Month (for Nov) by Dec 15
 - Submit Diocesan winners from the Soccer Challenge, Essay Contests, and Keep Christ in Christmas poster contests.
 - Silver Rose ends – Submit your Fraternal Program Report (#10784)

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

Pat Henz, Program Director

Star Council Awards

We are now at the end of the first quarter of the new Fraternal Year. We are down to less than 100 missing Form 185's and 200 missing Form 365's from active councils. Let's get these last forms in ASAP!

Although we are off to a much better start with meeting our Safe Environment requirements, we still have work to do! All Grand Knights and the Program, Community and Family Directors must be safe compliant with Supreme. Let's get this done ASAP as Directors are starting to be removed by Supreme for not meeting their training within the requested timelines. The Office of Youth Protection is very responsive and ready to help. Feel free to reach out to them at 203-752-4640 or via email at oyp@kofc.org.

Now we start to turn our focus on Fraternal Benefit Nights. Every council is asked to hold two events this Fraternal Year and several councils have already received some credits.

Work closely with your Field Agents and General Agents to complete your event first this Fall. There are a variety of ways to accomplish this so be inventive in your approach! The General Agents also plan to offer statewide events. Remember, the General Agent must certify the event and send a report to Supreme for you to receive credit.

The Star Council Awards Team is here to help you be successful so feel free to reach out anytime! Let's get this done, no excuses!

Vivat Jesus!

Reed Fontenot, Star Council Awards Director

Council Growth

Here Comes the Fall Season, New Seasons, Playoffs, and Transition of the Seasons, resulting in the Rejuvenation of Councils and Members as we all continue to hear and answer the call of our Pastors for help from The Knights!

The INCENTIVES CONTINUE, Many Dioceses continue to work on completing their New Council Development and Reactivations! Keep it Up!!

New Councils confirmed by Supreme following protocol (10 new members, min.) AND All NCD Forms completed will be awarded **\$450** to the Diocesan Deputy for his Diocesan Incentive programs! **THIS IS FOR THE NEXT 4 NEW COUNCILS!**

Every Council Reactivated following protocol (5 new members, min.) AND ALL REACTIVATION FORMS SUBMITTED will be awarded **\$100** to the Diocesan Deputy for his Diocesan Incentive programs!

Every Diocesan Deputy that met his **Round Table goal** for the Fraternal Year before **September 30** will be awarded **\$100** for his Diocesan incentive programs. The LATEST RESULTS are listed below, FINAL RESULTS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT Mid-Year meeting.

Round Tables - Round Tables are critical to ensure a presence in Missions and Parishes supported by existing Councils. The latest update of Form 2629 submitted are listed below:

College Councils - College Councils Currently finishing up their Recruitment Drive Competition! The winner awarded a Tailgate with the State Deputy and Officers. Great Competition amongst all the College Councils!!

Council Retention

GREAT NEWS! ONLY JULY 2021 SUPREME COUNCIL PER CAPITA ASSESMENTS ARE WAIVED.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to the Team for assistance. BE NOT AFRAID and have NO

COUNCIL GROWTH DIOCESAN STATUS						
DIOCESE	New Councils (per protocol)		Reactivations (per protocol)		Round Tables	
	Goal	Total	Goal	Total	Goal	Total
AMARILLO	1	0	1	0	8	0
AUSTIN	1	0	1	0	17	1
BEAUMONT	1	0	1	0	9	5
BROWNSVILLE	1	0	3	0	19	36
CORPUS CHRISTI	1	0	3	0	15	0
DALLAS	1	0	1	0	14	0
EL PASO	1	0	1	(1)	11	1
FORT WORTH	1	0	1	0	11	7
GALVESTON/HOUSTON	1	(2)	1	(1)	19	2
LAREDO	1	0	3	(1)	8	0
LUBBOCK	1	0	1	0	12	0
SAN ANGELO	1	0	1	0	12	5
SAN ANTONIO	1	(2)	3	0	19	2
TYLER	1	0	1	0	13	5
VICTORIA	1	0	0	0	13	4
TOTALS	15	4	22	3	200	68
Legend	in progress		met goal (Full Protocol)			

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 enter the month of October your Charities Fundraising Committee will become very active. This team of Brother Knights will be working with the Diocesan Teams to aid as many councils as possible set themselves up for new achievements related to State Council Charities.

One goal of this effort is to aid a record number of councils earn the Texas State Council Quick Start Honor Roll Award. For many councils across this great state, the Quick Start Award has been an ongoing annual achievement. Many councils, 165 as of the end of August, have already submitted 100% of their Charity Goal and many others will do so before the end of 2021. To all of you, we say thank you and look forward to your continued support of Texas State Council Charities again this fraternal year!

To those councils who annually meet and even exceed their annual Charity Goal before the end of the fraternal year, we want you to know your efforts are greatly appreciated. This year, we are going to challenge you to work to earn the Quick Start Honor Roll Award this year by making your council's contribution, equal to 100% of your goal, before December 31, 2021.

We challenge all councils to become Charities Active. If your Council has not yet contributed towards your assigned State Council Charity Goal, we ask you to please consider contributing, in any amount, as soon as possible this fraternal year. Challenge each elected Council Officer to make an individual contribution of \$20 and obtain their personal State Charity Pin.

Every dollar contributed makes an impact for the good across the state. Together, we can, we have, and we will continue to make a difference in the lives of those in need and truly live out the vision of our founder, the Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney, by providing for the protection of Christian Families.

BE NOT AFRAID! Vivat Jesus!

Derek W. Rabey, Charity Director

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