

... from the Texas State Council



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30-60-90 Day Outlook

September 2020

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:

Bold and faithful

On May 13, 2007 the Bishops of Latin America began a meeting to discuss the mission of the Church in Latin America. Pope Benedict XVI personally went to this meeting in Our Lady of Aparecida, Brazil and offered an opening speech to the gathered bishops. The bishops gathered there met for weeks and on May 31 agreed to a document to advance the efforts of evangelization in the Americas, proclaiming Jesus Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Life. The future Pope Francis was credited as one of the leaders of the bishops who produced this teaching, and on June 29 Pope Benedict XVI approved it. Towards the beginning of this document, they wrote words which can inspire us in our work as Knights:

"11. The church is called to a deep and profound rethinking of its mission and to re-launch it with fidelity and boldness in the new circumstances of Latin America and the world. It cannot retreat in response to those who see only confusion, dangers, and threats, or those who seek to cloak the variety and complexity of situations with a mantle of worn-out ideological slogans, or irresponsible attacks. What is required is confirming, renewing, and revitalizing the newness of the Gospel rooted in our history, out of a personal and community encounter with Jesus Christ that raises up disciples and missionaries. That depends not so much on grand programs and structures, but rather on new men and women who incarnate that tradition and newness, as disciples of Jesus Christ and missionaries of his Kingdom, protagonists of new life for a Latin America that seeks to be rediscovered with the light and power of the Spirit."

May the Lord bless you and your families and may we be bold and faithful! *Vivat Jesus!*

State Chaplain
Most Reverend Bishop Brendan Cahill

Assistant State Chaplains Message:

"Do not be afraid, I am with you..." *Is 41*, words from Isaiah that Christ would echo when sending out his disciples, "Go to all nations, teaching them to keep what I have commanded. Behold I am with you always." *Mt 28v20*

Brother Knights: September 14th is the feast of the Holy Cross, a feast about conquering fear and rejection. In my psychology class we covered the fears of failure and rejection



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Be Not Afraid

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which are actually rooted deep in the fight or flight response in our amygdala. These are the rooted in pride leading to cynicism and sloth (a pessimistic attitude and inaction). We find excuses not to even try or worse, explain the failures to ease or pamper our egos. For Christ, there are no excuses: only realities, effort and results. Christ did not shirk the Cross for our salvation, when Adam and we **have** chosen sin by our own free will. Christ takes on the sins of the nation, which means that he is going to be part of the solution from past results and consequences of others' sins in a broken world. A Knight too sees the need and responds it in imitation and obedience of Christ. A knight will not give up until the job is done because Christ did not give up the three times he fell on the way to Calvary. All that to say: Keep recruiting! Keep communicating! Keep active! Keep united! New membership to our Order, especially our youth, is important. Our Order is rooted on: Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. I do not mean keep nagging individuals, that seldom works and they will not last long in the Order or be active. I mean keep showing parishioners and pastors what the Knights do for the Parish, the community and the families in the faith in action programs! If you yourself do not want to attend meetings, give donations, raise funds, and spend time in these programs, what is left? A group of men who dress up and decorate ceremonies? A group of men who "poach and siphon" money and membership from the parish groups and the pastor's key personnel? Rouge councils who do not contribute to the Order at Diocesan, State and Supreme levels? Where is patriotism if we do not have a national or global vision? Where is fraternity if we do not have a State vision? What good is Unity if we do not have a Chapter or Diocesan perspective? What good is to have vowed Charity if our time, money, and efforts do not selflessly flow out to the pastor, parishioners and our families?

How can we say we are an Order of Knights if there is no structure other than the celebrity of the Grand Knight and the whims of councilmen? Listen at your council meetings: excuses and reasons to or not to invite, give, or work? Blaming the people, the priest, the past, the current situation or the future? Be a true Knight as Fr. McGivney needed, because I am sure glad to be in a Christian Order of Knights. Christ gave no excuses to die for me, which means I will give no excuses to live for Him and his Church. Vivat Jesus!

Prayer: Lord you gave no excuses when Pilot let you speak. You got up three times when even your body wanted you to come down from the Cross. You never broke your unity with us. You never stopped your fraternity with us. You never held back your charity toward us. Tired, afraid and overwhelmed (**Council Number or Name of Council**) will not break rank or file. Give us the strength, humility and vision to focus on present needs and present tasks so that we can choose the most fitting programs needed. This is how we will attract members to our Order this is the activity we will invite them to. Amen.

Brother Knight Chaplains: In your report this month explain to your council has have helped you as a parish and how they are viewed by other members of the community this year. Share with them how they are needed this coming month, or even better—what the parish needs as we continue with the pandemic and its realities.

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 the **Revised** 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.

Be Not Afraid

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September – 1st Quarter in the books. Re-evaluate your plans make adjustments. **No Excuses.**

Roundtable Coordinator Form 2629 – Due September 30

Financial Secretary On-line Training: (each class limited to 99)

September 16th - To register for this class: (1 registered as of June 8, 2020)

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMucOyuqz0qH9wF368FO2-d5GQkmQlpKEuW>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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

No Suspended Councils – No Supreme Per Capita assessed. Use that money as an incentive program for Membership, Programs, or State Charities.

October 12th – Columbus Day - Church Membership Drives for the weekend before or after this National Holiday.

District Meetings

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

Leave No Neighbor Behind reports as required –

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

For some of your Training needs click on this link:

<http://craigmod.us/fstraining>

Diocesan Deputies start planning your Midyear Conference for January 2021

Feel free to contact me for any assistance.

Vivat Jesus!

David Zeigler, Education, Training, & Communications Director

MEMBERSHIP

E-Membership – Church Drive/Parish Blitz - Exemplification

Great start for the first two months of the fraternal year. Let us keep it going!

Many of you have taken advantage to the Supreme incentives by bringing in new members into the order using E-Membership. Now let us get them out of council #98042 (E-Membership) and into your council and get them active in our parish and community.

While preparing for the upcoming Church Drive/Parish Blitz, may I suggest adding in your church bulletin announcements the idea of joining the order using E-Membership. Several councils throughout our state were successful in recruiting using this tip.

Here is the link: <https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-the-knights.html>

For the past two months Supreme has had two weekly exemplifications Spanish on Wednesday and English on Thursday. At this point Supreme does not plan on continuing with those weekly exemplification. However, the “On-Demand Exemplifications” will be made available. I encourage you to continue to promote the convenience of the “On-Demand” Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity, and invite all the men on your prospect list to join the Order in this way.

The process for inviting candidates to participate remains the same, make sure to follow the Online Exemplification Procedures and note that candidates for admission must be approved by your council.

Don't forget to start working on your Diocese/District/Council Exemplification team. Order the supplies needed for a live scripted Exemplification. Here is the “On-Demand Exemplification Link:

https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1359367&tp_key=9eb24b3a45&sti=invitationpdf

If you need help with exemplifications, just give us a call.

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!

- **September Reminders –**
 - Schedule Council level Soccer Challenge
 - Order the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest Kit -
 - 9/11 Day of Prayer – Consider hosting a Blue Mass for First Responders
 - Start the Shield a Badge program
 - Submit the Family of the Month (for Aug) by Sept 15
 - Submit Fraternal Program Report (#10784) for any activities your council did this month.
 - Remember to schedule the Silver Rose / Marian Icon
- **October Reminders –**
 - 7th – Our Lady of the Holy Rosary – Schedule Rosary Program or Holy Hour
 - Columbus Day – October 12 – Hold an Exemplification
 - Conduct the Catholic Citizenship Essay.
 - Conduct District / Diocesan level Soccer Challenge
 - Participate in the 40 Days for Life
- **November Reminders –**
 - Food for Families – Feed the hungry in your community.
 - Keep Christ In Christmas programs – there are several activities that fall under this title: Journey to the Inn, Light up for Christ, Advent wreath blessing, and the poster contest.
 - Coats for Kids –
 - Time to judge the essays from the Catholic Citizenship Essay contest.

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

We are two months into the fraternal year and off to a good start with submitting required forms - Elected Council Officers (form 185) and Appointed Program Personnel (form 365). If you have not sent these to Supreme and the State Office, please do so as soon as possible.

Members of the Star Council Awards team are calling all the District Deputies to offer assistance.

Now we are turning our focus to Safe Environment - the next important step of earning Star Council and Star District Deputy. The Grand Knight, and other appointed Directors, will receive a notification to complete required training from Supreme. There are three one-hour training modules to finish in 30 days. This is important so please set aside the time to

do this. Failure to do this in a timely manner will cause the Director positions to be vacated by Supreme. Let's get this done Brothers! We are here to help!

Let's get this done!

Vivat Jesus!

Reed Fontenot, Star Council Awards Director

Council Growth

Brother Knights, Summer is winding down, but the temperature keeps rising in step with the heat of Dioceses momentum working to close the loop on Reactivations and initiating New Councils. These are on behalf of requests from Pastors requesting a Knights of Columbus presence in their Parish. Please call on **Br. Roger Hovis and Br. William Tartaglia** for guidance and assistance.

This is a 12 Step Process to follow when developing a **New Council** or **Reactivating** a Council.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Survey the Area | 7. Have an Organizational Meeting |
| 2. Contact the Pastor | 8. Conduct First Degrees |
| 3. Contact the State Deputy | 9. Plan for Institution |
| 4. Contact General and Field Agent | 10. Apply for Charter |
| 5. Conduct Initial Recruitment Drive | 11. Presentation of Charter |
| 6. Conduct Committee Meetings | 12. Follow Up |

Please call on the Council Growth Team to assist and guide with the Process. It all begins with **Form 133**. Please review Star Guide pages 18 – 19 for details.

Time is running out to take advantage of the incentives to turn in all **Round Table** reports before Sept. 30th. **Br. Dan Aguilar** is available to assist. Please submit your **Form #2629** prior to **Sept 30th** as incentives are in place for all active Councils with Round Tables.

There has never been a more opportune time for **Hispanic Development**. Please review with your local Parish community to identify the opportunity to initiate and implement a Spanish Speaking Council in your Diocese. Remember, No Excuses, when introducing a Knights presence in your local Spanish Speaking Parish. The Hispanic Development Team, Br. **Guillermo Munoz and Br. Armando Gonzalez** are ready to assist and guide with new Council development.

The College Fall Semester has begun, please call on **Br. Jacob Mangold** to assist with **College Council Development**. These young men are the future of the Order and their membership is critical for continued growth. The foundational experience is invaluable, let us continue to support the College Councils Please unify as Men of Faith and Service to Identify, Evaluate and Develop a New Council!

BE NOT AFRAID and have NO EXCUSES, Let's Get it Done!

God Bless the Knights! God Bless Texas!

Vivat Jesus!

Carlos X. Martinez, Council Growth Director

Texas State Council Charities

Now is the time for charitable action! We need all councils active regarding the first principle of our Order, Charity. As we have learned, Charity does not consist alone in gifts of money.

As we enter the Hurricane Season here in Texas, we request each council work to appoint an Emergency Response Coordinator and ensure this member's information is provided to the Diocesan Emergency Response Representative. We further ask each council coordinator to

gather the information related to resources their council can bring to bear during an emergency. Whether it is manpower for a work detail, disaster debris removal, food preparation, food distribution, shelter operations, etc. Knowing what resources are available prior to an emergency is the key to a successful response. We encourage all councils to place a line item in their budget for a \$500.00 Emergency Disaster Fund. This will ensure your council is ready to react to any emergency situation and not have to wait for council approval to make needed purchases or to get financial assistance to a member in need.

The State Emergency Response Team is available to aid you in pulling together your emergency response effort. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any member of the team. Their contact information can be found in the Star Guide which is located on the Texas State Council website (www.tkoqc.org).

BE NOT AFRAID!

Derek W. Rabey, Charities Director

Insurance:

Brothers, Please see below for a State Wide Fraternal Benefit Night. Get one of your required nights done now.

September 16th, 2020, 7pm – register at:

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlvdeusqTgiGtCtzOAq-pOkphF4_bbK39A5

Must pre-register! SIGN UP TODAY! Only sign up if you can attend. Limited to only 1,000, last one almost hit that number, get your councils registered early. All are welcome, members, non-members, wives, family and friends – forward the pre-register link and encourage all to attend. Once you pre-register, a follow up email will be sent. THIS is the link, unique to you, for you, DO NOT SHARE your link. ONLY share the link above.

Once you pre-register, please do save that link in your follow up email in your calendar.

How do you get credit for your council? **Market the Fraternal Benefits Night.**

Some suggested actions: Council email blast; Council social media announcement; Use the council Facebook page; And / or create event on Facebook

Tempus Fugit, Memento Mori

Be Not Afraid

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