

Robert Zielinski – State Secretary

2306 E. Colfax Avenue

South Bend, IN 46615

(574) 234-6931

StateSecretary@IndianaKofC.org

January 2026

Worthy Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, and Brother Knights,

We would like to invite you and your members to the 125th Annual Meeting of the Indiana State Council that will convene at the **Hilton Fort Wayne at the Grand Wayne Convention Center 1020 S. Calhoun St. Ft. Wayne, IN** from Friday, April 17 through Sunday, April 19th, 2026. We look forward to seeing your Council delegation and families. The Convention will have the Opening Mass on Friday, April 17th, at 5:00 PM EDT.

Remember to bring your Council / Assembly Banners and stand.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION: This year to attend the event, **EVERYONE** MUST Register online through the state website to attend the event as a Delegate / Alternate, Attendee, or Guest. Please use the link found on the State Website - <http://www.indianakofc.org> to complete registrations online. Everyone who wishes to attend or view the convention MUST Register. All members, wives, children (over 18 yr.) and guests, including Delegates, Alternates, State Officers, Past State Deputies, Directors, Chairmen, and Financial Secretaries are required to pay the convention registration fee of \$55. Registration opens Monday, February 2nd, 2026. Early registration fee of \$45 applies, if submitted before Sunday, March 1, 2026. No refunds will be issued after April 5th. Refunds issued will have any State fees/costs deducted from the total amount of the refund. If unable to attend, registrants cannot transfer what they have paid to another attendee.

The 2026 State Convention Information, registration information, and Credential Form can be found on the State website - <https://indianakofc.org/>. All online completed attendee registrations must be **submitted online** by March 29th. Any Late Registrations after March 29th will be \$75 without the ability to purchase tickets to paid events such as the Vocations Awards dinner, Awards Luncheon, Banquet, or Ladies' activities. To ensure you get the tickets for these events, you must register online through the state website by March 29th.

IMPORTANT: Each attendee (spouses, children, guests) must be registered as individuals. Multiple people can be registered at the same time.

DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE Credential Forms:

Delegates / Alternates forms **MUST be submitted by the Council FS SEPARATELY** from the online registration and received by the State Secretary no later than March 29, 2026, (This is **IN ADDITION TO** the attendee completing the online registration through the state website).

These forms may be emailed (in PDF format), if the embossed stamp is visible. Delegates and Alternates must bring a copy of the documents to the convention for check-in with the State Treasurer and State Advocate.

- Supreme guidance is the **Grand Knight and Past Grand Knight** are the expected delegates for the Council.
- Alternates may be a council member who is a third-degree Knight. If you have any questions, please contact the State Secretary.
- No changes of Delegates/Alternates will be made after the deadline date or at check-in

registration, so submit Alternates on your form, in case your Delegate is unable to attend.

- In order to enter the chamber during a meeting, the member must have a paid registration to enter, since the facilities are a cost that the paid registrations help reduce.

NOTE: Local Council Delegate / Alternate Credential Forms that are not received by the State Secretary by the March 29th deadline, will not be processed and the delegates/alternates for that council will not be seated as a delegate/alternate or allowed to participate/vote. Please allow enough time for delivery.

HOTEL RESERVATION: It is the responsibility of the attendees to book their overnight hotel rooms, if needed.

Hilton Fort Wayne at the Grand Wayne Convention Center 1020 S. Calhoun St. Ft. Wayne, IN

- **Reservation Link:** <https://www.hilton.com/>. Make sure to use the “Group Code: INK” under “Special Rates” when booking at the “Hilton Fort Wayne at the Grand Wayne Convention Center” to get the proper rooming price.

- A Credit card is required to guarantee all reservations
- **Online reservations link:** [Book the group rate for Indiana Knights of Columbus](#)
- **Phone reservation:** Call toll-free number **1-800-HILTONS** to book hotel room, Hotel Group code is **INK** for Indiana KofC group discount rate of **\$134** + applicable taxes and fees. Make your reservations Now, **Deadline for Hotel Registration is March 25, 2026.**
- Parking will be \$10 per night per vehicle.

Cost for rooms at the Hilton Fort Wayne at the Grand Wayne Convention Center are \$134.00 per night for a single, plus taxes/fees.

- **HOSPITALITY SUITES:** Councils, individuals, and groups wishing to reserve a hospitality suite should immediately contact Executive Secretary, Tim Spisak 219-775-5096, execsec@indianakofc.org. The Indiana State council assigns Hospitality Suite rooms for the Convention. Hospitality rooms are to be paid upon confirmation with a check payable to “*Indiana State Council*” for cost of the Hospitality room/night and mailed to *Tim Spisak, 681 Davis Cir, Crown Point IN 46307*. Rooms are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

PRIESTS: Priests and Chaplains are not charged a registration fee. **Councils are encouraged to cover their Chaplains other costs, including meals/mileage.** Priests are required to pre-register for the State Convention and Vocations Dinner for proper seating counts. Chaplains will receive a separate mailing with information for the Friday activities.

ATTIRE: This weekend is a business event. Please dress appropriately. Business casual (Collared shirt and slacks) is acceptable during the open and business sessions, **NO JEANS**. All those attending Mass and the Saturday Banquet should wear black suit/tie or tuxedo attire.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS: All business sessions of the Annual Meeting are conducted in the Third Degree. ***Not all Honorary Life members are Third Degree members. All Honorary Life members, must present their council issued membership/travelling card to attend the convention,

the Honorary Life “plastic card” can’t be accepted for admittance.

REGISTRATION CHECK-IN PACKETS may be picked up at the Convention Registration area on Friday, April 17, from 1:00 pm-6:00pm EDT, and on Saturday, April 18, from 7am-9am EDT. All ladies will have to register online for the convention and will also have a packet to pick up at the registration table. Please encourage your Lady to attend this event. Please arrive early for registration check-in, since the **Registration table will Close at 9:00am Eastern on Saturday morning, April 18th** – After 9:00am, No one will be there to check-in registrants or to provide materials. **Knights need to BRING their Currently issued Membership travelling card for admittance to the business sessions.**

DIOCESAN CAUCUSES will be held again this year for **Supreme Convention Delegates**. If you are interested in being a representative to the Supreme Convention, please contact the State Advocate for paperwork and procedure. There is information on the Diocesan Caucuses on the State website.

SPONSORS / ADVERTISEMENTS NEEDED for the STATE CONVENTION BOOK!

We are welcoming Sponsors for Advertisements in the State Convention Book this year.

If you, a council, assembly, or a business would like to purchase and sponsor an Advertisement in the State Convention Book (Full, Half, 1/4, or 1/8 page) to help defray convention costs, please contact the State Secretary, Robert Zielinski, at StateSecretary@IndianaKofC.org for information and submissions.

NOTE: All Sponsor advertisement submissions must conform to the beliefs, teachings, guidance, rules, and principles, etc., of the Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. Submissions will be reviewed and printed upon the discretion and approval of the State Council.

Submissions must be fully created / prepared by the sponsor / advertiser when submitted, and will be printed as submitted, once reviewed / approved and payment received.

Vivat Jesus!

In Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism,

Robert Zielinski
State Secretary – Indiana State Council
2026 State Convention Chairman

FAITH IN ACTION