



Gil Spisak – State Deputy

Home Council: #9114, Nativity of Our Savior, Portage, IN

Home Assembly: #240, Fr. Sorin Assembly, Valparaiso, IN

Worthy Brother Knights,

First, I want to apologize that the last couple of months' newsletters were unintentionally delayed. After breaking my hip, they ended up stuck in my email outbox. I appreciate your patience, and I have summarized the most relevant information below.

I would like to GREATLY THANK all the Knights who called, emailed, sent cards, and visited me while I was in the hospital and during the month I spent recovering at the rehab facility. Your kindness, prayers, and generosity truly made a difference in keeping my spirits up during a very challenging time of recovery—especially while confined to a bed and wheelchair.

A special and heartfelt Thank You to Rich Rajski and Mike & Lisa Kovacs for going above and beyond by bringing my mail from home and for the much-appreciated “Coke Zero” drop-offs at the rehab facility. You were absolute lifesavers, and I will never forget it.

Thank you as well to everyone who attended the March for Life events this past January. Your presence was a powerful witness to the dignity of life. Please be sure to visit the State Website to view photos from the events. A sincere Thank You to Mike Velasco for his dedication, commitment, and years of hard work organizing and coordinating these trips. Your leadership has made a lasting impact.

With this New Year in 2026 – WE NEED YOU to make the **2025–2026 Fraternal Year** a success—and to help **Indiana achieve the Circle of Honor!**

This isn't just another request. It's a mission. **Your participation is vital.** We are calling on **YOU** to help us **grow the Order** by inviting **Catholic men** to join us—men who want to live out their faith, serve their families and communities, and be part of something that truly matters.

Let us remain steadfast in our Mission – **Our mission is clear:** To empower Catholic men to live their faith and serve their family, parish, community, and country. Together, we can make a significant and lasting difference in the lives of many. **Your participation is vital** in helping us grow and fulfill this mission.

IT IS ABOUT THE NUMBERS – AND THE MISSION!

Let's be clear: **Yes, it IS about the numbers.** But more importantly, it's about what those numbers enable: **more charity, more faith, more impact, and more future Knights to carry the torch!**

Take a look around your council. Are you **gaining members** faster than you are **losing them**? If not—ask yourself: **“What will become of our good works if we don’t invite others in to continue them?”** What charitable work will your council be able to perform if the members slowly fade away! I have encountered this as State Deputy, where a council’s members ages were in the 70’s and 80’s and closed, no longer meeting. They had to sell their council hall and donate the money to the church. **WHO is being helped by that council NOW and in the FUTURE? NOBODY!** Continue to Grow with new members so your council doesn’t fade away!

Will you be the one who helps your council grow and thrive, or the one who watches it fade?

We can’t afford to let negativity or complacency win. Every Catholic man deserves the opportunity to be part of the Knights of Columbus. **Are YOU inviting him?**

Let’s live our faith out loud. Let’s serve. Let’s grow.

As mentioned in a Supreme presentation:

We grow today for tomorrow.

- Our councils need to understand this. We want them around for another 100 years.
- It is about growing – not just rewards.
- Rewards are to acknowledge and Thank those that do well.

Let us continue this mission by inviting Catholic Men to share in the gift of Knighthood with us.

Mission of the Order

The Knights of Columbus empowers Catholic men to live their faith and serve their family, parish, community and country.

Vision of the Order

Founded by Blessed Michael McGivney in 1882, the Knights of Columbus is the premier lay Catholic men’s organization. Guided by the principles of charity, unity and fraternity, we build lifelong relationships with our members and families. We are multigenerational and international. We offer formation, mutual aid and financial security to members through our charity, products and outreach. We aspire to invite every Catholic man to join the Knights of Columbus and to extend our charitable reach as widely as possible.

Membership Drives

Join our efforts to grow the Order by participating in membership drives at your local parish. If your council hasn’t held or planned **the REQUIRED MARCH Spring Membership Drive**, inviting Catholic men to join the order, it’s not too late to invite with a membership drive at your parish!

Thank You to those councils who have already held and submitted their Membership Drive info to their District Deputy! For assistance contact State Membership Director Frank Joseph – membership@indianakofc.org

As the saying goes “Many hands make light work!”

EVERYONE – KNIGHTS and ALL Councils should be Inviting men to Join Us! – As “Fishers of Men”!

Be “Fishers of Men” at your Fish Fry’s during Lent – Does your council have a table of Knights of Columbus handouts and contact information to invite Catholic Men to join the order and to help you at the future events?

Have you or your council members reached out to those who are currently going through your Church Program (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)) for those who will be baptized into our Faith this EASTER? If not, YOU need to reach out to them to become a Knight and grow in their Faith with our Brother Knights when they are baptized!

FISHERS of MEN - Inviting and Bringing Men into the Order to Join Us!

REMEMBER:

It’s not about a number.

It’s not about a reward.

It’s about mission. It’s about obligation.

Every Catholic man deserves what you and I have.

Catholic men are waiting. They are waiting to be invited. Just ASK!

Let’s all be “Fishers of Men”—inviting and welcoming others into our brotherhood.



Please use the following link in English, <https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-kofc.html>

JOIN ONLINE FOR FREE!

As we continue to celebrate Blessed Michael J. McGivney's Beatification, please enter the Promo Code **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY** to join online for free. *

Upcoming Virtual Spanish Fraternal Benefit Event

The first Virtual Spanish Fraternal Benefit Event of 2026 is designed to **strengthen engagement and drive membership growth within the Hispanic community.**

Event Details:

- **Date:** Tuesday, February 24, 2026
- **Time:** 8:00 PM EST | 7:00 PM CST | 5:00 PM PST
- **Language:** Spanish with English subtitles
- **Event Link:** <https://bit.ly/498upov>
- **Promotional Flyer:** [Click Here](#)
- **Social Graphic:** [Click Here](#)



This session will provide **valuable insights into the benefits of membership** and demonstrate how these services can help us **better serve and connect with our members and communities.**

We encourage you to share this event with your **state and local councils.** Your leadership and participation are essential to building strong relationships and delivering exceptional value to both members and non-members.

Fraternal Leadership Advisory (FLA) – It's FREE !!!

Are you receiving the FLA? We still have many Knights who do not receive the Fraternal Leadership Advisory (FLA). ALL Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, Council Officers, and District Deputies, elected for the 2025-26 year, need to be signed up to receive the FLA along with anyone involved in council events. Are YOU receiving the **Fraternal Leadership Advisory** from Supreme to stay up to date??? If not, you can sign up at <https://www.kofc.org/en/news-room/fraternal-leader-advisory/index.html> and it will help guide you with current and future events and the information needed.

Important Cor Reminders – Build & Strengthen your FAITH!

– Every Council is Required to have an Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF) Director

- The **Council EFF Director Submission Form** is vital to our collective success. These reports and data directly benefit your State EFF Director.
- NOTE: the Council EFF Director position is not listed on Form #365 and needs to be submitted via the **Council EFF Director Submission Form**.
- **Cor Central** If you or someone on your team isn't receiving the *Cor Central* newsletter, you can sign up here: **Subscribe to Cor Central**

Additional EFF and Cor Reminders

- As we near the season of Lent, please consider encouraging your leaders to pray for each other and prepare well for **Lent** during *Cor*.
- As your council begins starting up *Cor*, councils and DDs should go to the **Cor leader webpage** and continue with DDs to spearhead the collection of essential *Cor* data from all councils running *Cor*, specifically:
 - **Council EFF Submission Form**
 - **Cor Quarterly Report Form**
- **Vivat Jesus Spiritual Planner 2026**: A prayer guide and calendar for 2026, featuring monthly devotionals, ideas for celebrating the saints and important feast days, the Supreme Chaplain's monthly challenges, and more.

Regional Town Hall Huddle Meetings in March 2026

ALL Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries and your Council Officers need to be in attendance to gather the latest information to help your council continue to grow and to be part of the In-Person Q&A session with the State Officers, Directors, Chairmen, and District Deputies.

Please refer to the emails from our State Secretary and your Diocesan Coordinator for the Regional Town Hall Huddle meetings dates and locations in your area. Please make sure to RSVP with the Host Council contact, so they can prepare the meeting space and refreshments accordingly.

With these in-person meetings, it allows great back and forth communication between the state and the local councils. Get those questions answered and receive information needed.

If you have any questions, please contact the State Secretary Bob at statesecretary@indianakoc.org or your Diocesan Chairman.

125th STATE CONVENTION – April 17th to 19th, 2026 at the Grand Wayne Convention Center in Fort Wayne. A limited number (hotel K of C Group block) of rooms has been reserved at the Hilton Fort Wayne (connected to the Convention Center), with rooms at the discounted group rate. Use the Group Code in the convention letters sent out by the State Secretary. **Be the 1st to reserve before the limited reserve block of rooms sells out!**

If you didn't receive a convention letter, check the State Website or contact the State Secretary, Bob Zielinski, to receive the letters and information.

Click on the State Convention on the State website - <https://indianakofc.org/>
State Convention forms can be found on the State Forms website -
<https://indianakofc.org/Resources/Forms/Indiana-Council-Forms>

This is an election year, so be there to elect the State Officers for the 2026 – 2027 Fraternal Year!

Contact State Secretary, Bob Zielinski, if you need further information or assistance with the State Convention – StateSecretary@IndianaKofC.org

We have a “NEW” Convention Registration system this year. If you need assistance – Contact the State Secretary, Bob Zielinski, at his email above or Mike Kovacs – Mike.Kovacs@indianakofc.org.

On Demand Training Is Always Available *(Available Anytime!)*

Visit kofc.org/training to find our complete library of on demand training, where state, district and council officers can go to learn more about their duties and responsibilities, as well as review best practices for the daily operations of an assembly or council, tips for membership growth, and timely suggestions for using programs to keep members actively engaged.

Train at your convenience and strengthen your leadership!

Here's an example of what you will find – click on the links below to register and view at any time:

Conducting Church Drives – Find out what a successful Church Drive looks like, and how to plan one for your council.

Conducting Activity Drives – Make your council a visible part of the Church and Community.

Online Tools and Resources – How to find the guides, forms and information housed in the Officers Online and For Members portals of the [kofc.org website](http://kofc.org).

Time Management – An opportunity to learn some best practices for handling everyday tasks and long-term goals when limited time is available to manage the day-to-day operations of a council.

Working With Your Pastor – We discuss the necessity of building strong relationships with our pastors, so that we can assist them in strengthening and growing parish communities.

Disaster Relief – Tornado / Hurricane / Flood Response

As we approach Spring and the Tornado season, Bill McDonald, our State Disaster Relief Chairman is continuing to request the needed donations to support the disaster response team's efforts to help with recovery for natural disaster damage affected areas. Contact Bill if your community needs assistance with any disaster, especially with the recent tornado's - disasterresponse@indianakofc.org

To donate, please submit your donation check to Charity Fund Inc. made payable to Indiana State Council and mail to CFI Board Treasurer, PSD Paul Zielinski, 4974 Roxbury Ct. Pittsboro, IN 46167 and “Disaster Response” in the Memo line.

FORMS:

State: <https://indianakofc.org/Resources/Forms/Indiana-Council-Forms>

Supreme: <https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/council-forms.html>

**** Supreme has Updated their website, so many of your previous links to information and the Supreme Forms may have changed. Check the Supreme site if you are having difficulties with your shortcuts.** It's important to make sure all forms emailed are submitted in the required PDF format according to the State Program Guide. Forms submitted in other formats JPG, GIF, or PNG might not be accepted and could cause processing delays. If you need any help with converting files or have other questions, contact your District Deputy or the State Trainer, Mike Kovacs (trainer@indianakofc.org) or State IT-Admin, Roger Reuss (itadmin@indianakofc.org)!

DO NOT send forms in emails as a “Link”, it will NOT be processed. The form being submitted MUST be in PDF format and “Attached” as a file – DO NOT SEND AS A LINK!

To All Councils, Assemblies, and Brother Knights:

Thank you for your continued hard work and dedication. We look forward to collaborating with you throughout the 2025-26 Fraternal year. Your actions, deeds, and service exemplify Christ’s teachings and help us grow in faith and charity.

“We are MEN on a MISSION!” - A Mission from God!

Together we can have INDIANA achieve the Circle of Honor!

The State Team of Officers, Chairmen & Directors, and District Deputies are eager to serve and work together to advance our mission. Contact us if you need assistance or information or would like to make a difference by joining our State Council Team. <https://indianakofc.org/Contact-Us/State-Officers>

As we continue into Lent and the Easter Season of the 2025-26 Fraternal year, let us commit ourselves to our mission: to invite, to serve, and to grow in faith. Each invitation you extend brings us closer to fulfilling our mission and making a lasting impact. Together, we can ensure the future of the Knights of Columbus remains bright and strong.

Vivat Jesus and God Bless!

Gil Spisak – State Deputy
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“Men on a Mission!”



**Knights of
Columbus®**
**Indiana
State Council**

FAITH IN ACTION – Indiana Knights – First in Faith, First in Charity!