

Dear Brothers,

Thank you for allowing me to spend a moment with you. My name is David Negrete and I am a 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus. I currently serve as district deputy for District 2, and I am the state public relations chairman. I live in Northwest Indiana, and I have been a member of the order since 2001. My home council is Marquette 3631 in Griffith. At my home council, I am the membership director and public relations chairman, and I am a past grand knight there. I have also held many different officer positions within the council. As a former field agent for the K of C Insurance, I worked with our current GA Phil Stackowicz for a couple of years and was hired in under his father.

On a personal note, I have been happily married to my wonderful missus, Vanessa, for the last 9 years. We are active members of our parish, St. Mary's in Griffith. My wife comes from a journalism background and a few years ago started working for the Diocese of Gary as their digital communications manager. I work as a surveyor technician for DVG Team in Crown Point. At our parish, Vanessa and I together teach third grade CCD, which is when students make their First Holy Communion. I get such a kick out of teaching our young parishioners about Christ's love for them and preparing them to receive Him for the first time in the Holy Eucharist. In addition to serving as a CCD catechist, I am also pastoral council president, chair for the altar server ministry at the parish, cantor, Eucharistic minister, choir member and liturgy committee member.

I have enjoyed working with many of the district deputies and state chairmen and directors during my tenure as DD and PR chair. I was so glad to speak to many of you last year about effective techniques and tools to use to conduct our church membership drives. Many of you have reported success in gaining new members, and I know a few of you reached out about my elevator speech and I am happy to continue passing out copies for use for all of our councils.

As you are aware, I would like to be a delegate to the Supreme Convention this year in Washington D.C. I have never been to the Supreme Convention before. If I am selected as a delegate, I pledge to do my best in representing our great jurisdiction. As the order moves into the future, we have had to adapt to many changes to meet challenges that lie ahead of us. As one of the first born of the "millennial" generation, I like to say that I was born into an analog world and came of age in a digital one. That ability to reach across several generations puts me in a unique place to counsel my brothers and lead them, knowing how each man comes from variations of walks of life. I look around and I know that we would like to see some younger blood in the rank and file. As someone who turns 39 this summer, I'd like to think that as a delegate to the Supreme Convention, I can offer a glimpse into the future for the Indiana jurisdiction and showcase that to the rest of the order. I'd like to be that standard bearer of a new generation that accepts the torch from my mentors and friends, my brother knights who have led us for many years with dedication and love. Not only love for our brothers, but their love of Christ as well.

May Father McGivney intercede on our behalf and bring our prayers before our Lord. May God continue to bless you and your families and may our Mother, Our Lady of Guadalupe, watch over us and protect us always.

Vivat Jesus!

SK David C. Negrete, DD, PGK
Membership Director/Public Relations Chairman – Marquette Council 3631
Public Relations Chairman – Indiana State Jurisdiction

