



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 11809

**at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and  
Mission at Lake Pleasant Parkway  
Sun City West, Arizona**

## NEWSLETTER May-June 2025



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### Message from the Grand Knight

As we approach the end of the Fraternal Year and my term as Grand Knight, I want to thank each Knight who showed up to our Meetings, Bernadette's Brew, Food and Turkey Drives, Water Drive, Coats for Kids and our Lenten Fish Fry. Your support for these and other events was outstanding and reflects proudly on our Council, the Parish and the Knights of Columbus as a Catholic Men's Faith, Fraternal and Service Organization. It is only through the efforts of our Brother Knights (and their families) that we succeed as a Council. All of you should be proud of the efforts you made in support of all our events.

We had a good year in support of our Pastor, Parish and Council,  
**THANK YOU FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING YOU, OUR COUNCIL  
 AND OUR PARISH!**

VIVAT JESUS!

**Bob Conen, Grand Knight**

P.S. And a huge thank you to our Worthy Grand Knight, **SK Bob Conen**, who stepped up, even though having done this job before, to lead us through the 2024-2025 Fraternal Year. Bob devoted his wisdom, time and energy to extending the presence and fraternal spirit of our Council both in our Parish and community. **Ed Hoover, Deputy Grand Knight**



## Financial Secretary, Important Updates

**Message from Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly on 125th Anniversary of the 4th Degree**

“Today the question is not whether Catholics can be patriots...We hear that patriotism means the same thing as blind nationalism, that it tends toward arrogance, aggression, and advancing one country’s interests at the expense of others.

However, as Knights and as members of the fourth degree, we refuse to accept these lies. On the contrary, we stand for the true meaning of patriotism.

Our church teaches us that patriotism is not and never has been about national supremacy, nor is it a call to exclude or vilify the foreigner or the immigrant. It’s not a weapon to be used against other nations or peoples. Rather, the church reminds us that patriotism is a duty that flows from a sense of gratitude - gratitude to God, gratitude to our family, and gratitude to our nation for the gifts that we have been given, the gifts that shape and sustain us: hearth and home, church, culture, and community.”

Brothers,

Dues notices for 2025-26 fraternal year will be coming soon, as the fraternal year ends June 30th! Pay your dues before

Mother's Day, May 11, to be entered in the Snowbird raffle for cash prizes! Contact the Financial Secretary to pay your dues now and avoid the rush!



We currently have 210 members, a net gain of two for 2025, with 13 members having joined us this fraternal year (since 7/1/2024). We have 40 members in arrears for dues for 24-25, with a total in owed dues of \$2,741.00. One member has transferred to Prince of Peace with outstanding dues, so we will be credited for his dues when his transfer is complete. ANY member in arrears can contact the GK or FS to make arrangements to resolve the dues issues. I am also pursuing the Affiliate Member Initiative for approximately 15 Brothers, which will remove them from our council and allow the State Council to attempt to contact them.

I'd like each member to contact me to update your information in the Knights of Columbus database. This includes having your spouse, children, responsible person listed, so that they can be contacted in an emergency, or to make final arrangements. Additionally, we'd like to update your "interests" areas, so that our FIA and other directors can help your membership become more active, and so that we know what interests the council should pursue.

## Lenten Program-Great Participation

“Our Lenten Journey with Jesus” was the theme of the Knights parish Lenten devotion program. We are deeply grateful to our prayer-filled and generous parish for supporting the program with their devotional diligence and donations. Through this program we raised over \$2200 to help with our parish’ goal of expanding the Adoration Chapel.



## From the Deputy Grand Knight

As Knights of Columbus we do an awful lot of great work. As we approach the end of the current fraternal year on June 30 we look both back on what we've accomplished and forward to the opportunities in front of us. We just completed both the Lenten Fish Fry and State Raffle Ticket fund raisers which generate funds for our parish and local charities. Together over \$15000 was raised to support our Parish, First Way Pregnancy Center, Catholic Education, and St Vincent DePaul. This past year our Faith in Action Program Directors led the way in programs and fund raising. The Faith Program launched the COR dialogue providing men of the parish (not just Knights) with the opportunity to deepen their faith through prayer and study. The Life Program led a group from our Parish to the March for Life in downtown Phoenix. The Community Program once again through Coats for Kids distributed 200 coats along with scarves, mittens and gift cards bringing smiles and gratitude from children and their families. This program area also spearheaded multiple food and water drives donating food and over \$3300 to Valley View Community Food Bank. The Family Program raised \$2650

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## Lenten Fish Fry Results

Our Council conducted a very successful Lenten fish fry fundraiser this year. We distributed 1058 dinners and generated over \$7800 which will be divided between our Parish and other local charities. Comments were solicited and overwhelmingly they rated the food and service as "excellent". This could not have happened without the many many volunteers including our wonderful Knights' wives and Parish ladies. A special thanks to our Grand Knight, **Bob Conen**, for his exemplary effort and service.



## Arizona March for Life

The Arizona March for Life took place on March 15 in downtown Phoenix. Our **Life Program Director, Jeff Boas**, arranged for the Parish bus to take the group for pre-rally events including prayer, music, Roses for Life, student contests, exhibitor tables and food trucks. Our group then marched to Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza where the rally took place.





## Council Establishes Three Committees

There are a number of important Council activities that do not readily fall within our existing structure. Too often this has led to less than ideal planning and organizing. To address this issue three new standing committees have been established. Council members are asked to offer their assistance to Committee Chairs.

### **Fish Fry Committee, Co-Chairs, Jim Michel and Rich Stone**

- Plans, organizes and conducts the annual Lenten Fish Fry
- Coordinates with Parish Staff for permission to use kitchen facilities and equipment and assure that the kitchen area and all equipment are properly cleaned and stored.
- Purchases supplies, recruits staff, assures food handler compliance.
- Coordinates with the Public Relations Chair for publicity and promotional assistance and with the Financial Secretary and Treasurer for handling of donations raised.

### **Social and Parish Events Committee, Chair. Larry Bonno**

- Plans, organizes and implements social events to build camaraderie and cohesiveness among members and spouses/significant others.
- A primary focus of this Committee is to provide encouragement of fraternal relationships and build a cohesive Council.
- Responds to requests from the Parish to assist with occasional social oriented parish events as.
- Organizing and staffing Bernadette's Brew on assigned Sunday.

### **Raffle Ticket Promotion Committee, Chair, TBD**

- Plans, organizes and implements the annual State Charity Raffle Ticket promotion.
- Coordinates raffle ticket sales by members, weekend raffle ticket sales after Masses, sales of raffle tickets at other venues as appropriate, receipt of monies from sales and transfer to the Financial Secretary for accounting.
- Coordinates with Parish to set up ticket sales booths and with the Public Relations Chair for publicity and promotional assistance

**PRAYER FOR THE  
REPOSE OF THE SOUL  
OF POPE FRANCIS**

*O God, faithful  
rewarder of souls,  
grant that your  
departed servant  
Pope Francis,  
whom you made  
successor of Peter  
and shepherd of  
your Church,  
may happily enjoy  
for ever in your  
presence in heaven  
the mysteries of your  
grace and  
compassion,  
which he faithfully  
ministered on earth.  
Through our Lord  
Jesus Christ, your  
Son,  
who lives and reigns  
with you in the unity  
of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and  
ever. Amen.*



# May 1-2 2025 Arizona State Convention

| Year To Date Recap         |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| ❖ New Members for AZ:      | 955   |
| ❖ Total Membership for AZ: | 19875 |
| ❖ New Council Members:     | 780   |
| ❖ Net New Council Members: | 634   |
| ❖ State Year Over Year:    | +87   |

Arizona Membership Stats



Presentation on COR



Opening of the Convention



Ladies made hats for Kentucky Derby Party

## Fourth Degree News



Congratulations to **Jeff Boas, Larry Bonno, Hank Gorski and Ed Hoover** who proudly received their Fourth Degrees at the Exemplification Ceremony on April 26th becoming Sir Knights (SK). The next

Fourth Degree Exemplification takes place on June 14th at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Phoenix.

The Fourth Degree, celebrating its 125th Anniversary in 2025, is a brotherhood united in our dedication to patri-



L-R Ed Hoover Larry Bonno, Andre Casabone (not in our Council), Hank Gorski and Jeff Boas

otism enlightened by our Catholic Faith. The patriotic spirit of every Knight is enhanced by joining the Fourth Degree.



For information about applying go to <https://kofc-az.org/patriotic-degree> or contact **SK Greg Jude, slj1972@yahoo.com.**



## Catholic Daughters—A Successful Year



The Catholic Daughters held a shred-a-thon on Saturday, April 26, which was very well attended. Thank you to the Knights who helped us that morning. Unfortunately, the shredding truck was full by 10:30 so we had to stop accepting boxes for shredding. That same afternoon, we had a Fashion Show in Madonna Hall attended by 175 ladies who enjoyed a salad luncheon and fashions by Sher's Clothing Store.

Our last meeting before our Summer break will be a potluck on 5/21 following our business meeting. September 17th will be our first Fall meeting!! Have a great Summer!!

## Calendar

Never wonder again what your Council is up to. Access the monthly events and activities calendar and other news at:

[KofC11809.org/news/](http://KofC11809.org/news/)

Please join us at our monthly member meetings on the second Thursday of the month.

5:30 pm Rosary  
6:00 pm Meeting

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The Knights of Columbus are not part of and not acting on behalf of the parish or Arch/Dioocese.

## Women's Guild—Thank You!

The members of the Women's Guild, and the out-going officers, extend their thanks to the Knights for their help, interest, and support during this past Guild year (July to present). We look forward to working together in the future to benefit OLOL parish.

### Mary Fox Guild President 2024-25

## DGK Message, cont. from page 3

for First Way Pregnancy Center through the Keep Christ in Christmas magnet campaign. For Lent this Program provided materials to parishioners to help them make the most of their Lenten journey and also raised over \$2200 which goes to the parish for the expansion of the Adoration Chapel. Beginning July 1 we set out on a new year with new opportunities. Much of the above work will be repeated through the Fish Fry and Raffle Ticket Promotion Committees. In addition, we have a new Social and Parish Events Committee that will provide leadership in strengthening our brotherhood through social activities and stand ready to respond to requests from our Parish for help with parish-wide events. Each of these committees and four program areas need brother Knights to step up and help. You can make a huge difference by offering your help! Vivat Jesus! **Ed Hoover, Deputy Grand Knight**