



# DE LAWARE STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



## GOOD OF THE ORDER 2020 – 2021

The assembled delegates to the Seventy-Seventh Annual Meeting of State Council urge adoption of these proposals and recommend that proper steps be taken to see that the proposals are carried out to the best of our ability. It is recommended and suggested that the Grand Knight of each council keep the “Good of the Order” Report handy for use throughout the year and make copies available to council members.

### **A. State Officers and Council Officers**

1. It is recommended that the State Deputy will provide for the proper and fitting installation of the State Officers in the month of July. The Installation ceremony should be incorporated in a Mass with families and friends of the State Officers in attendance.
2. It is recommended that the District Deputies arrange for the installation of council officers by the end of August. If possible, the Installation ceremony should be incorporated in a Mass with families and friends of the council members in attendance.
3. It is recommended that a directory of State, Council and Assembly Officers be published and distributed by State Council before the twentieth day of September. The directory should include council and Fourth Degree Assembly names, charter date, meeting location and time, officers’ names, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail address, wife’s names and titles of highest office held (where appropriate). A calendar of events for State Council should be included in the directory. This calendar will be updated and published on a regular basis.
4. Councils and Fourth Degree Assemblies are asked to refer to the state calendar when scheduling their events to avoid conflicts with State sponsored events. To assure correct and accurate information, District Deputies, Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, Navigators, and Comptrollers are responsible for submitting their directory information to the State Advocate no later than the twentieth day of July.
5. It is recommended that Grand Knights, Deputy Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, Program Directors, and any interested Brother Knight attend the State Council Orientation Seminar to learn, discuss, and enlighten themselves on their roles and responsibilities.
6. It is recommended that name tags for the State Officers, District Deputies, District Wardens, State Council and Program Directors be procured by State Council and distributed prior to the State Officer Installation Ceremony. Additionally, it is recommended that all councils procure name tags for their Officers and distribute them prior to Council Installation.

7. It is recommended that State Officers visit councils at a regular business meeting at least once during the Columbian year.
8. It is requested that the Grand Knight or his designee submit the Grand Knight's appointment of the new Council Chaplain by August 15 to the State Chaplain.
9. It is recommended that Council Officers (GK, DGK, etc.) and State Council Officers attend as many State Council sponsored functions as possible. Grand Knights should also encourage council members to attend State Council sponsored functions.
10. To add dignity to meetings and public appearances, it is recommended that all State and Council Officers be properly attired, when appropriate, with coats, ties, the jewel of their office, and name tag. Coats and ties are optional in July and August for State Meetings.
11. It is recommended that councils should make every effort to assume payment of/or grant forgiveness of dues required of deacons and seminarians.

## **B. Membership**

1. It is recommended that energetic programs be directed toward increasing membership in councils. Emphasis must be placed on attracting the youth and young adults who are so vital to the continuation of our Order. State Council Directors should provide the necessary encouragement and incentives to accomplish this end.
2. It is recommended that the District Deputy form a membership recruitment team in each district to help councils in the district with membership drives.
3. It is recommended that State Council purchase ads in the Dialog to support spring and fall membership drives.
5. It is recommended that all Knights of Columbus functions should include, where appropriate, some emphasis on membership.
6. It is recommended that councils schedule membership drives in their parishes at the beginning of the Columbian year with their Pastor and Parish Administrator.
7. It is recommended that each council make every effort to retain their members by referring members at risk to their councils Retention Chairman and his retention team. It is further recommended that Brother Knights who might be suspended or removed from the roll have their names read at a Business Session of the council. All suspensions should follow the procedure outlined by Supreme. Any suspensions thought to be necessary by a council should be turned over to the State Council before being submitted to Supreme.
9. It is recommended that councils establish an Exemplification Team for the Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. District Deputies should encourage and assist councils within their districts in this effort.
10. It is recommended that an Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity be scheduled frequently enough within each district to accommodate the timely acceptance of new

candidates into our Order. The scheduled place and time should be coordinated with the State Ceremonial Chairman. The Sponsor Council should post the degree on the State Web Page Degree Calendar by using the “Schedule a Degree” feature at <http://uknight.org/StateCouncilSite/index.asp?CN=US&ST=DE>

11. It is recommended that councils encourage candidates to dress in business casual or appropriate attire.
12. It is recommended that each council continually seek to establish and support new Roundtables especially at parishes not currently supported by the Knights of Columbus

### **C. Remembrance of Deceased Brothers**

1. It is recommended that the State Council hold a Memorial Mass at the Annual Meeting of State Council. The State Secretary (or Deacon) will read the names of our deceased brothers of the current Columbian Year at this Mass. The names will be submitted to the State Secretary by each Financial Secretary two weeks prior to the Annual State Council Meeting.
2. It is recommended that councils recognize the importance of having a Memorial Mass and continue this practice during the month of November for deceased members of their council. Each Grand Knight is to provide advance notice to his District Deputy as to the time and place of this Mass.
3. It is recommended that councils have numerous Masses offered preferably in the council’s parish.
4. It is recommended that attendance at the viewing and funeral of deceased brothers or their immediate family is strongly encouraged by councils. Notification as to the time and place would be helpful by publicizing information on <http://uknight.org/StateCouncilSite/index.asp?CN=US&ST=DE>
5. It is recommended that councils set up a committee to follow through on the welfare of widows of deceased members and to include them in all council activities and council mailings.
6. It is recommended that the Grand Knights, or their designate, will inform the State Chaplain and the Insurance Agent of the death of a member, listing his next-of-kin and his address. This will enable the State Chaplain to write the next-of-kin a letter of condolence on behalf of the State Council, informing said next-of- kin that a Mass is being offered for the deceased.
7. It is recommended that councils present a “Resolution of Condolence” (available from Supreme Council Supplies Department) to the next-of-kin of a deceased Brother Knight. We recommend that Grand Knights and Faithful Navigators utilize the Knights of Columbus Memorial Service for deceased members as appropriate.

### **D. Faith Activities**

1. It is recommended that the State Council and the individual councils sponsor a priest and a religious appreciation program to reaffirm our support of their valuable work. Councils are encouraged to participate in "Priesthood Sunday" in October by honoring their Chaplain and or parish priest. An acceptable means would be having a notice placed in the parish weekly bulletin, making an announcement at Mass, buying a gift, presenting a "thank you" certificate or inviting him to a meal breakfast, lunch, or dinner or anything the council deems appropriate to recognize their "spiritual advisor."
2. It is recommended that the Rosary devotion be fostered throughout the year by all councils especially during the months of May and October.
3. It is recommended that religious discussions and other methods of disseminating knowledge of our faith to the members be made a permanent part of every council meeting.
4. It is recommended that the State Council appoint a Retreat Chairman to solicit the participation of all members in a weekend retreat at Malvern Retreat House in Malvern, Pennsylvania. It is also recommended that councils consider a "Day of Recollection" at the Saint Francis Renewal Center or another appropriate place and invite other Councils to attend.
5. It is recommended that all members make themselves available to their church, whenever needed, in all areas but especially in liturgical and social ministries.
6. It is recommended that each council display the prayer "Our Lady Queen of the Knights" in an appropriate area, and that the prayer be recited at the close of each council meeting. Members are encouraged to memorize the prayer. It is further recommended that the Prayer for the Canonization of Father Michael J. McGivney to be considered for the meeting opening prayer.
7. It is recommended that each council promote an understand of the Catechism of the Catholic Church by obtaining a copy for each of its members.
8. It is recommended that councils adopt and promote a "Keep Christ in Christmas" program. Councils should consider utilizing the Faith in Action programs or other appropriate programs like the Keep Christ in Christmas Card (KCIC) program.
9. It is recommended that State and all councils support Vocations and the Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP), and continue to pray for vocations at all council meetings. It is further recommended that the State Seminarian Chairman publicize a listing of all seminarians studying for the Diocese of Wilmington and coordinate participation in the RSVP Program with all councils within the Jurisdiction.
10. It is recommended that each Grand Knight establish ongoing lines of communication with the Parish Council and other parish groups to encourage cooperation and make the Order's services known and available to the Church community.
11. It is recommended that councils promote the recitation of the Holy Rosary for the Needs of the Universal Church and the Diocese of Wilmington, Delaware. Councils can check

the Diocesan Web site for tapes or CD's.

12. It is recommended that State Council and Subordinate Councils support the maintenance needs and additions of the statue of Our Lady, Queen of Peace at Holy Spirit Parish, 12 Winder Road, New Castle, DE. The Bishop supports this worthy lay mission and it is recommended that all councils and assemblies encourage their members to also support this financially and through prayer. More information can be found by viewing the Our Lady Queen of Peace website - [www.ourlady-de.org](http://www.ourlady-de.org)
13. It is recommended that councils support the Cause of Sainthood for the "Venerable Servant of God" Father Michael J. McGivney, and encourage their membership, family, and friends to join the Father Michael J. McGivney Guild.
14. It is recommended that councils sponsor a Founder's Day Mass and/or other appropriate activity on March 29th to pray for the cause for canonization of our Founder, the "Venerable Servant of God" Father Michael J. McGivney.
15. It is recommended that each council establish programs to recognize the accomplishments of teaching nuns in their local parishes.

#### **E. Community Activities**

1. It is recommended that State Council and Individual Subordinate Councils recognize and observe, in a special way, Columbus Day. It should be noted and recognized that Columbus Day is the anniversary of the institution of Delaware State Council.
2. It is recommended that State Council support the Christopher Columbus Monument Committee in the care of the statue in Columbus Plaza in Wilmington.
3. It is recommended that State Council and Subordinate Councils develop programs to encourage decency in literature, movies, the Internet, and other forms of communication. Councils can also consider organizing anti-pornography Sunday with the approval of their parish pastor.
4. It is recommended that State Council and councils continue their efforts in supporting the Bayard House, the Ronald McDonald House, Mom's House, the Seaman's Center, Diocesan Children Home, Diocesan Vocation Guild, Ministry of Caring, and like organizations in Delaware.
5. It is recommended that members of the Order write to their respective legislators regarding bills of interest to the moral and/or general welfare.
6. It is recommended that all councils participate in the annual "Soup-er Bowl" food drive.
7. It is recommended that each council establish programs to recognize the contributions of any local military, police officers, firefighters, or paramedics.
8. It is recommended that all councils encourage their members to participate in the

Knights of Columbus Group of the Blood Bank of Delaware.

9. It is recommended that councils consider participation in the Adopt-a-Highway program by sponsoring the cleanup of a roadway in proximity to their meeting location. It is recommended that councils contact the Chamber of Commerce in their municipality for the posting of a Knights of Columbus road sign containing information on the council's meeting day, time, and location.

#### **F. Family Activities**

1. It is recommended that all councils promote family participation at Mass and in the reception of the Eucharist.
2. It is recommended that all councils sponsor an "Insurance Night" for members and their wives.
3. It is recommended that councils schedule as many events as possible throughout the year to which their family and friends are invited.
4. It is recommended that all councils encourage their members to participate in the Delaware State Council Scholarship project to support our Delaware Diocesan school students.
5. It is recommended that programs involving youth activity projects such as the Track Meet, Free Throw Contest, March for Life, Jerry Dawson – PSD Vocation Essay Contest, Declamation Contest, and Chess Tournament be continued with concerted effort to involve all Councils.
6. It is recommended that councils support other youth activities, especially those involving Scouts and Altar Servers. It is recommended that Eagle Scout, Gold Award and Altar Server Certificates be obtained from Supreme Council for distribution.
7. It is recommended that councils continue support for the current Columbian Squires Circles.
8. It is recommended that State Council and subordinate Councils support 4-H and Future Farmers of America activities.
9. It is recommended that councils utilize the Family of the Month program to recognize families from their council. It is also recommended that councils utilize the Knight of the Month program to recognize the efforts of our Brother Knights. Councils can develop their own program to recognize other families or individuals from their parish for contributions who are not Brother Knights.

#### **G. Publicity**

1. It is recommended that an active Publicity Program be generated by the State Publicity Chairman which would include issuing press releases concerning various works performed by the Knights of Columbus in Delaware.
2. It is recommended that the newsletter of each council be mailed to all of the Grand Knights, District Deputies, State Officers, and Master of the Fourth Degree of Delaware, State Program Directors, Faithful Navigators, and Past State Deputies in the Delaware Jurisdiction.
3. It is recommended that all councils support the use of the Delaware State Council website at <http://uknight.org/StateCouncilSite/index.asp?CN=US&ST=DE>, and are encouraged to create their own Council website and affiliate as sub-domains of the Delaware State Council website. It is further recommended that the local council add a link from the Supreme website to the council's website.
4. It is recommended that all councils promote the purchase of a Knights of Columbus license plate for the vehicles of all members. The cost is a one-time \$10 fee and plates are obtained from the Delaware Motor Vehicle Department through the State License Plate Chairman.

#### **I. Life Activities**

1. It is recommended that State Council and councils continue their efforts in support of all "Culture of Life" programs.
2. It is recommended that each council make special efforts to encourage their membership to support, participate in, and make our presence known at the January "March for Life" and that Delaware Knights participation in the march be coordinated and visible.
3. It is recommended that a suitable memorial service for all aborted children be held during Respect Life Month in October at all of the tombs or memorials to the unborn within the Jurisdiction of Delaware.
4. It is recommended that every council and every Assembly in the jurisdiction of Delaware start at least one meeting a month with a recitation of the Rosary offered up for the defense of pre-born children and changing of hearts and minds to protect all life, from conception to natural death.
5. It is recommended that each council make special efforts to encourage their membership to support, participate, and make our presence known at the Good Friday "Life Chain" and the "Life Chain" held during Respect Life Month in October.
6. It is recommended and encouraged that State Council and subordinate councils develop and execute programs for the Day of the Unborn on March 25.
7. As part of a Culture of Life event, it is recommended that at Knight of Columbus functions the following prayer be recited as a pledge of our commitment to the gift of life:

## **PLEDGE OF RE-COMMITMENT**

I THANK GOD TODAY FOR THE GIFT OF MY LIFE,  
AND FOR THE LIVES OF MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

I KNOW I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THE UNBORN,  
WHO CANNOT SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.

I KNOW THAT THE MOST SERIOUS TRAGEDY OF OUR DAY  
IS THE TRAGEDY OF ABORTION.

TODAY I COMMIT MYSELF

NEVER TO BE SILENT,

NEVER TO BE PASSIVE,

NEVER TO BE FORGETFUL OF THE UNBORN.

I COMMIT MYSELF TO BE ACTIVE IN THE PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT,

AND NEVER TO STOP DEFENDING LIFE

UNTIL ALL MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS ARE PROTECTED,

AND OUR NATION ONCE AGAIN BECOMES

A NATION WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE

NOT JUST FOR SOME, BUT FOR ALL. AMEN!

### **J. General**

1. It is recommended that the State Council formally recognize at the State Convention all the Brother Knights who attain the fiftieth year of service with the Knights of Columbus in the current Columbian year.
2. It is recommended that all Grand Knights review the previous year's Good of the Order prior to the Good of the Order Meeting to prepare for recommended changes, deletions, or additions. All Grand Knights are encouraged forward any recommended changes, and or additions/deletions of the Good of the Order to their District Deputy or his representative to bring to the "Good of the Order" meeting when it is called by the State Secretary.



3. It is recommended that name tags be worn at all meetings, Mass and other Church events particularly those to which other councils are invited, or when visiting other councils.
4. It is recommended that the Color Corps of the combined Fourth Degree Assemblies continue their outstanding contribution to the Order and the Church. We urge their continued activity and encourage all Brothers to support them.
5. It is recommended that each council establish an Attendance Committee, which shall endeavor by telephone, mail or personal contact to increase attendance at all activities of the council, and the Order.
6. It is recommended that at least one State Information Meeting and State Council function be held in each county in the Jurisdiction of Delaware
7. It is recommended that each Grand Knight meet regularly with the parish pastors or administrators to promote Columbianism.
8. It is recommended that the Budget Committee, Good of the Order Committee, and Resolutions Committee furnish a copy of their reports to State Officers, District Deputies and Grand Knights no later than ten (10) days before the annual state meeting for review.
9. It is recommended that reports of Committee Chairmen, District Deputies, and Grand Knights be submitted to the State Secretary prior to the Annual Meeting of State Council. These reports shall not be read on the Convention floor unless otherwise determined by the State Deputy.
10. It is recommended that each council's Grand Knight and Program Director familiarize themselves with Supremes "Faith in Action" guide. Utilizing this as a tool to assist in setting up the council's Church, Community, Family and Life programs. Seek direction from the State Council as needed.