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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Nevada State Council

REV. THOMAS Fransiscus C.SS.R.
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“Effectively sharing Christ love with our Brother Knights, their families and the Parishes we serve”

Dear Brother Knights,

I was asked why the Knights of Columbus focus on membership and why I share the District and Council status monthly. The answer is that as a Knight who believes in our mission and the Order I want every eligible Catholic man to be a Knight. The Supreme office wants the same thing that Fr. McGivney wanted in having every eligible Catholic man have a fraternal relationship with his fellow Catholic men for the good of his family and the Church.

I hear from council after council they need more men to volunteer and support projects but at the same time get questioned on why we need more members and focus on membership. Please help me share the word that more members means good things for councils in terms of filling that need for more volunteers to increase what we do and relieve the men that have been carrying the burden so they don't burnout. This complaint can be solved for example: if 20% of the members do 80% of the work/donations then aren't 20% of 200 members better rather than 20% of 100 members? Thus increasing your volunteering and donations and reducing the stress by sharing the load with more members. My hope is that you'll use this information I send out to plan where your efforts in planning and management are needed and as a quick check if your council(s) are following their success plan for the fraternal year. Another reason is that no growth along with loss of members through drops or suspensions often means there may be an underlying issue that if addressed correctly may bring new life into a council. Are you engaging your Knights? Is there bickering and division among your members? Sometimes cannot see things that are too close and need objective outside constructive input to help solve a problem.

It was said that it is just about more revenue for the Knights of Columbus, to which I would say, since that money is used or returned to councils for things like seminarian support, relief of disasters and persecuted Christians in the middle east, the global wheelchair mission, Special Olympics / intellectually disabled support, ultrasound machines, the millions given to the Pope for his charities, broadcast of Vatican events, college council convention costs and so many other outstanding projects that I find these are good and worthy of our efforts, don't you?

Not to mention, but it is important, that they also pay dividends and death benefits to Brother Knights and departed Brothers families as well as providing scholarships to college.

I appreciate all the help and am soliciting your advice on how to best work with our Districts and Councils to encourage them to want to share the Knights with other men and they families.

I wish you and all our Brother Knights and their families the best and God's Blessings.

Vivat Jesus,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T.J. Thorn'.

Thomas J. Thorn - State Deputy
Nevada State Council

Supreme website: <https://www.kofc.org/en/index.html>
State website: <http://kofcknights.org/StateCouncilSite/index.asp?CN=US&ST=Nv>