



CLIMB HIGHER & EXPECT MORE...

...Christ is worth it!

## A new model for a renewed mission in service to Christ.

Together, it is time to climb higher and expect more from our Councils to ensure every man becomes what he is called to be through baptism and confirmation, **a priest, a prophet and a king**. Each of these vocations inherits actionable tasks that must be learned, executed and supported by an infrastructure designed to help carry out our mission in Christ's name. That infrastructure is a healthy parish-based Knights of Columbus Council.

### Take a leap of faith and build a Council that is fully alive in Christ!

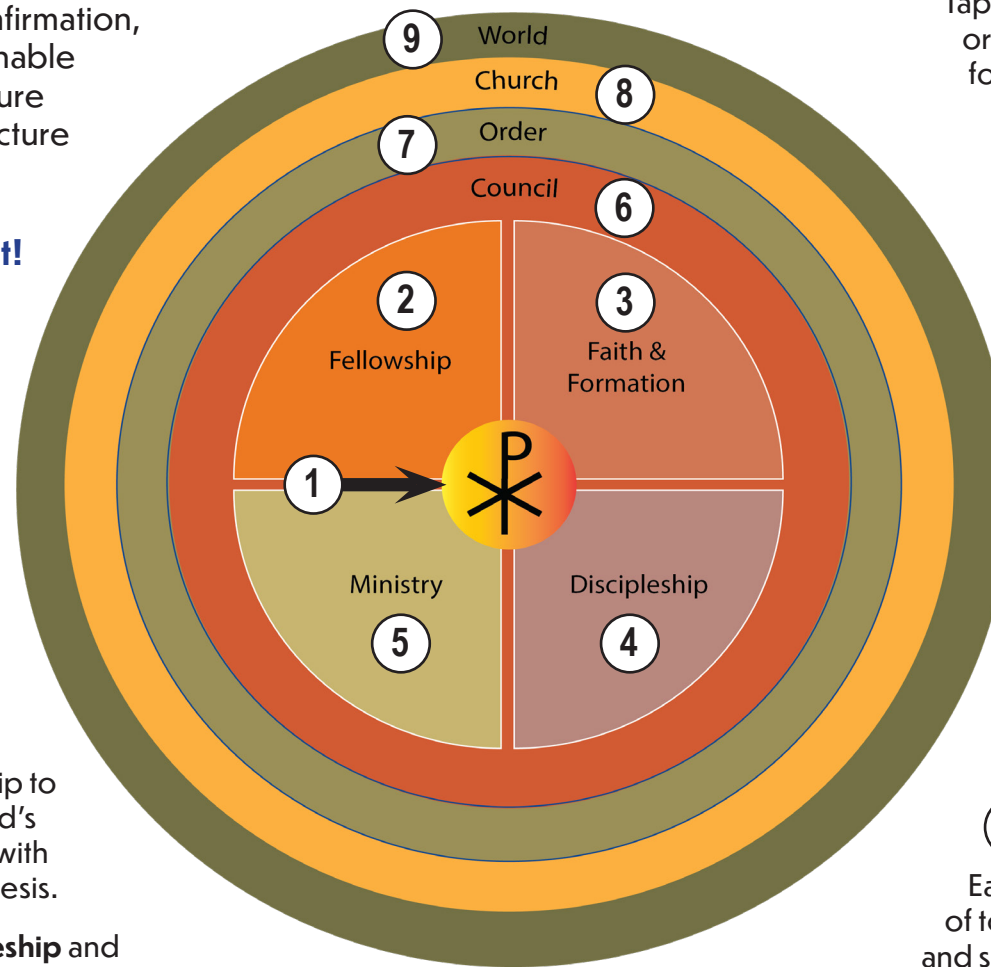
#### 1 Always put Christ in the center (Christocentric)

A Council must put Christ at the center in every aspect of its mission and administration. All our efforts must ensure a Knight's focus is on Christ at all times. We must avoid toxic behaviors and sinful tendencies to properly carry out fraternal service. Remember to stop and ask yourself "did we remember to invite Jesus into our plans and the work we are attempting to do?" If not, regroup and start over on the right foot.

#### 2 3 4 5 Put "Faith Into Action"

The faith of a Catholic man calls him to worship God, spread the Gospel and care for those in need. We are at our strongest in this mission when we work together as brothers in Christ. We can use **Fellowship** and organized worship to strengthen our resolve while praying for the courage and wisdom to be God's soldier for good in all the world. We can grow stronger in our relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through **Faith Formation** and regular catechesis.

We can carry the message of God's love for each one of us through **Discipleship** and work to grow his Church by introducing others to Christ. And finally, we can perform corporal works of mercy sharing God's grace and compassion through our **Ministry** work each and every day. These four core areas of focus will help every Council fulfill its mission to defend the faith, protect our families and serve our fellow man in the name of Christ our King.



6 7 Good Council leadership, organization, and accountability are keys to ensuring a great membership experience in our Order.

Tap into the resources of a two million-member strong Catholic fraternal organization to help create a structured and clearly defined apostolate for every man in your parish. Through well-organized programs, ministries and social events your brothers in Christ will be able to grow in their faith and also protect their families through insurance products that only Knights of Columbus members can obtain.

#### 8 The Church needs authentic masculine men now!

The Church is under constant attack by forces that wish to destroy our faith and our sacramental bonds with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Who among us will step up and stop the hemorrhaging of Catholics from our pews? Who will stand up for life from conception to natural death? Who will help teach the beauty of God's love found in the sacrament of marriage? Who will protect and defend the good and holy priests of our Church who have given their entire lives over to God for the protection of our souls? Will it be you? Are you ready to fight for what is right?

The stakes have never been higher as the casualties of modern spiritual warfare continue to mount. Come and join us by putting on the armor of God and help push back the evil tides that want to destroy you and your family. It's time to get off the bench and into the game.

#### 9 The World needs men of God.

Easy access to the comforts and pleasures of the world have weakened the faith of too many Catholic men who wander aimlessly through the streets of depravity and sin. These men now find themselves bottomed out in a state of complete moral bankruptcy. Addiction, pornography, prostitution, infidelity, divorce and material secularism have become the new worship for many men of our time. Good men of strong moral fortitude are getting harder and harder to find by the day. We must together combat the growing apathy toward faith in Christ by forging into the breach.

## Don't settle for 10% participation. Make 100% engagement your goal!

**"The true measure of Council health isn't found in its meeting attendance!"**

There are many great ways to participate in the Order. Attempt to harness all the many diverse ways to help every Knight in our Council fulfill their baptismal calling to know, love and serve God. Make sure to offer plenty of opportunities for members and their families to engage in their faith in Church, at home, and out in the world! Here are important areas and activities to focus on...

- Faith formation (Small Group or Individual)
- Feeding/sheltering the poor (Volunteer or financially support)
- Small/large group fellowship events. (In homes or the Parish)
- Prayer Programs (Prayer chain/holy hours/group rosaries)
- Ongoing social media engagement
- Retreats/lectures/educational series for the parish
- RCIA support
- Host a discipleship night at your parish or favorite hang out
- Support local Habitat for Humanity projects
- Outreach to the elderly and infirmed
- Support pregnancy help organizations
- Help support Catholic education
- Adopt a seminarian
- Support a local religious community
- Volunteer for parish service projects
- Sponsor a cleanup day for area parks
- Support local blood drives
- Support boys and girls clubs



## EVANGELIZE! You gotta spread the word...

Keeping in constant contact with your Council members, your parishioners and others in your community is critical in keeping your Council healthy and productive. Be sure to embrace as many communication channels as you can to ensure the Word of God is spread and your mission is known. Here are some of the many ways Councils can get the word out!

Word of mouth  
Email  
Snail mail (Send a letter)  
Blogs  
Vlogs  
Bulletin Announcements  
Kiosks/Bulletin Boards  
Outdoor signage  
Newsletters

Pulpit announcements  
Phone trees  
Text Messaging  
Facebook page  
Twitter  
Instagram  
Snapchat  
TikTok  
Diocese Publications

When the day is done, how will you be judged?



And when that day comes, He will know we were men of the Cross!

Will you stand up and be counted as one of us?

It is easy to make the sign of the cross but much harder to carry that Cross each and every day. Knights of the past heard moving and passionate testimony about the Cross during their formation. Those precious words helped every Knight fully embrace the true meaning of the Cross and its importance in our lives today. Let us share with you that part of our story and our history here again today...

My Brothers, behold this is the symbol of man's redemption - it is the Cross - through which your destiny was made sacred. It is the symbol of the light of Divine Intelligence over the darkness of the world. It is the Cross that soaked up the Blood of the God-man who was crucified for your sins and mine. It is the Cross of courage, charity and brotherly love. There has never in all the history of the world been another like it.

It is the Cross for which our Holy Mother Church was crimsoned with the precious blood of her martyrs... the millions of them... men, women and children who knew a love that surpassed all understanding... a love that made it a joy for them to take up Christ's Cross on their own shoulders and declare to the whole world, "*I am Christ's Brother... I bear His Name... I shall bear His Cross!*"

To be a Knight is to take up the Cross of Christ... to stand before an unbelieving world and declare: "*My shoulders are broad enough, my mind clear enough, my heart humble enough to know I am a sinner who is called to be another Christ among men. It is my destiny and whatever the sacrifice, it is my glory.*"

You wish to be Knights of Columbus! They who are already Knights have been the Simons of Cyrene in our time. If you wish to join them, then you must give us a sign, a sign that you know whose Cross it is that we bear - a sign that you are willing to take it upon your own shoulders, and now.

**Is your sign the Cross of the Crucified Christ?**

**Yes?**

**Then come, journey with us "into the breach!"**