



CA State Deputy September 2021 message



My Brothers,

Greetings!

As we prepare to enter the month of September, we look forward to commencing with a new school year, catechism classes at our parishes, and a shift into the Autumn season with only a month away.

Just a few months ago, we began the Columbian Year poised and resolved to “**Rise Again**” - to meet our stated goals; and to Leave No Neighbor, Family Member, or Parish behind. Our collective mindset recognized we must recoil and move forward amid what management leaders refer to as a Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous (VUCA) World.

As Brother Knights, we intend to lead!

Setting out to tackle the ambitious agenda below, I would like to reiterate the invocation given by our State Chaplain, Fr. Antony Vazhappilly, that “We allow our Mother Mary to guide, protect, and lead us to achieve a greater glory for her Son, Jesus our Lord and Savior.” I would also like to present all California Knights with an invitation to join together as we invoke St. Michael the Archangel who will lead us and fight with us on the field of battle.

Leading in a VUCA World!

Every day, it becomes more evident that there is no substitute for the Knights of Columbus. We must remain united and resilient in order to adapt and lead in this current environment that is the “*New Normal*”. In fact, thriving in crisis presents the opportunity of the moment for us as individuals and as a State Family. We need to continue to grow and serve others as we are commissioned to do so. One of the keys to thriving in this VUCA World is to maintain and reinforce our focus with vision, understanding, clarity and agility. As Catholics, we must be careful to place our reliance on God’s grace to ensure it is the **Spirit that Moves Us!**

As we arise from this pandemic, we must emerge strong by helping our councils and parishes to get re-involved with church and community activities. We could do this through our Supreme’s **COVID Recovery Program (CRP)** which you can view and get more information on our Supreme website. We know that recovery plans are unique in every council. This program provides the basic framework and assistance we need to be successful in this effort.

Moving forward, our September Focused Activities and Targets are:

PROGRAMS:

Faith - Into the Breach

Family - Family of the month/year

Community - Disaster Preparedness, Leave No Neighbor Behind; Catholic Citizenship Essay; and Soccer Challenge

Life - Fall Games

MEMBERSHIP:

Members who have joined our Order should be presented with the full range of benefits, continue to encourage/invite others to join on-line and be exemplified at the next opportunity of Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity (ECUF). As we rise from this pandemic, our churches, parishes, pastors and clergy need more of us more than ever. Let us continue to open our doors to all Catholic men, our brothers in Christ, parishioners and our church families like what our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney had done.

Let us place our local Councils and Statewide Exemplifications engagement levels to the front burner!

We need to constantly be aware of the need to do **Safe Environment Training** of Officers and Leaders within our Councils in order to protect the vulnerable in our parish communities.

Lastly, a reminder that Forms/Documentation Needs to be submitted to Supreme:

- Form 185 - Report of Officers Chosen
- Form 365 - Service Program Personnel
- Form 1295 - Semi-Annual Council Audit
- Form 450 - Degree Exemplification Report Form submitted after each exemplification

On the radar: Prepare for the Bishops Conference

Prayers in the Pew Monthly

From learning to invoke the aid of St. Michael the Archangel to motivating us to go “into the breach” in a VUCA world, please devour and share September’s edition of **Prayers in the Pew Monthly**. You will discover treasures inherent to our faith and how we can tap into a unique ability to be in contact with the unseen world of the angels and saints.

This month, press forward and go further by:

- Reciting the Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel and studying the Faith Fundamental dedicated to The Ten Commandments
- Embracing this month’s Spiritual Challenge from our California State Chaplain, Fr. Antony Vazhappilly to nurture devotion to your guardian angel.
- Taking special notice of this month’s Featured Faith in Action program, Into the Breach.

Finally, My Brothers, I again ask for your prayers and assistance as we continue to work to make this year another successful one for our councils, districts, chapters, assemblies - Our Order - most importantly, for God’s Greater Glory!

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle and pray for us!

Vivat Jesus!

- Bro. Noel

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