



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025

***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***



CALIFORNIA STATE COUNCIL CEREMONIALS

Ceremonials Chairman

Jack Haney

kcocjackhaney@gmail.com, 714-746-0445



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025

***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***

Ceremonials

- **Why bother with live ceremonies?**
 - **Candidates learn the History, the Purpose, and the Mission of Knights of Columbus.**
 - **A Ceremonial Chamber is a solemn environment stressing the importance of the moment.**
 - **Live charges are a personal and memorable experience.**
 - **Promises made aloud with witnesses is a commitment.**
 - **Dignitaries investing candidates with Rosaries and pins is a meaningful individual experience.**





District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025



*I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us*

Ceremonials

- The presence of Brother Knights supporting expresses Fraternity.
- Unity is tangibly created when candidates join the Council together.
- The principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity, (CUF) are developed and strengthened within a dedicated team.
- The reception is a welcoming of the new member families to the Council.
- A well conducted degree is a once in a lifetime experience for Knight.
- **REMEMBER, A COUNCIL ONLY RECEIVES A MEMBERSHIP CREDIT AFTER AN ONLINE MEMBER IN THE PROSPECT TAB COMPLETES THE DEGREE OF CHARITY, UNITY, AND FRATERNITY AND CONVERTS (TRANSFERS) OVER TO THE COUNCIL.**



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025



***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***

**THE DEGREE VIDEO WAS NEVER INTENDED TO BE A STANDARD METHOD
OF ADMITTING MEMBERS TO THE COUNCIL OR THE ORDER:**

Ref. *'Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity' Script, pg.7)*

- **Use the video only when no other means is available.**
- **The video is a defined ceremony and may only be used IAW the script.**
- **The GK is responsible for ensuring the degrees are properly conducted.**
- **The DD is responsible to correct ANY deviations from the script.**



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025



***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***

**The Goal is to Establish a Statewide Ceremonials Calendar
This Year.**

The Challenge:

- **Councils have the latitude to schedule degrees as needed.**
- **Councils should schedule exemplifications for the entire year.**
- **Schedule membership drives to fill the Degrees.**



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025

***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***



The SOLUTION!

- Councils plan degrees for the entire year by July.
- A goal of each council holding at least one degree each quarter
- Membership drives should be scheduled to fill the degrees.
- Do Not Cancel published degrees. If no candidates show, practice!



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025



***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***

The SOLUTION! (cont'd)

- DDs collect Council degree schedules and create a District Ceremonial plan.
- DDs provide district schedules to the Chapter President and State Ceremonial Chairman.
- Keep the schedule current! Post changes as soon as they are known.

**NOTE: DDs WHO SUBMIT THEIR DEGREE SCHEDULES AT
CHECK-IN AT THE JULY MEETING WILL RECEIVE A FREE
STATE TIE!**



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025

***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***



The Solution (Cont'd)

- **Every District should conduct at least one CUF degree every other month.**
- **Publish the Ceremonial schedule in Council and Chapter newsletters as well as the State website.**
- **DDs may conduct their own degree to maintain the schedule.**
- **Encourage Councils to create degree flyers and publish them.**



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025



***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***

Degree Reporting (NEW)

- Form 450 is obsolete. It is no longer recorded or tracked by Supreme.
- Grand Knights report completed degrees held in their Council to the DD and State Ceremonial Chairman.
 - Simple email. Date, Council, Candidates Exemplified, Type (live or video) presentation.
 - This report is generated **ONLY** by the Grand Knight.
- Do not report degrees where a member of the local council went elsewhere for the degree.



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025



*I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us*

The State Ceremonial Calendar

- Information required for the state calendar:
 - Host Council (Name and Number)
 - Location (i.e. venue, address, specific check in point)
 - Candidate check in date and time.
 - Degree Start time.
 - Point of contact information.
 - Dress code
 - Fees (Candidate or reception)

DDs are asked to ensure that the State Calendar is up to date.

***TRUST IN A PUBLISHED SCHEDULE IS BUILT ON THE
INTEGRITY AND TIMELINESS OF ITS INFORMATION.***



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025



***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***

Encourage Every Council to Have a Degree Team

DDs can initiate ceremonial team discussion at Council Officer meetings.

- **Bring copies of the CUF script and FAQ.**
- **Emphasize that only 5 team members hold speaking roles.**
- **Memorization is not required. Ceremonialists should be able to read roles as well as a practiced Lector reads Scripture at Sunday mass.**
- **Initial expenses for a CUF kit is under \$200.00.**



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025



***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***

Building a Council Degree Team

The Grand Knight appoints a Ceremonial Team Lead for the Council.

- **The team leader's duties include:**
 - **Coordinates with invested players to ensure the degree schedule is met.**
 - **Recruits and trains new team members.**
 - **Schedules team rehearsals/practices as needed.**
 - **Creates, maintains, and shares, a team roster of Ceremonialists (role players).**
 - **Establishes/coordinates candidate check-in procedures.**
 - **Ensures that required equipment and consumables are on hand.**
 - **Take the team to another Council's degree to observe and learn.**



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025

***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***



Team Formation

- Choose practiced public speakers for the spoken roles.
- Ask the volunteers to read the script and choose roles.
- Assign roles to specific team members.
 - Have them record themselves to check for smoothness, enunciation, timing, dramatic emphasis, etc. (In front of a mirror helps.)
- Develop movements, prop usage, movements in the chamber for the venue.
- Initially, conduct a full rehearsal with all props two weeks prior to the degree.
- Critique one another's performance after rehearsal.



District Deputy Organizational Meeting 2024-2025

***I Will Show My Faith Through My Works!
Mother Mary Pray For Us***



CALIFORNIA STATE COUNCIL CEREMONIALS

Ceremonials Chairman

Jack Haney

kcocjackhaney@gmail.com, 714-746-0445