



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## District of Columbia State Council

121<sup>ST</sup> State Convention - April 26, 2020

### Report of the State Membership Director

#### **Membership Goals**

At the beginning of the Fraternal Year, the Supreme Council designated increased membership intake goals for the District of Columbia at 210 new members. As of the writing of this report, with just over two months remaining, the Councils of this jurisdiction have recruited 106 new members and the State Council has reached 50% of its intake goal for new members.

The following four Councils should be congratulated for meeting or surpassing their intake goals for the fraternal year:

- Georgetown University Council #6375
- Catholic University Council #9542
- St Cyprian Council #10008
- George Washington University Council #13242

Several other Councils are within striking distance of making their membership goals and are being encouraged to do what they can to find ways to maximize online membership exposure.

#### **Recruitment**

Near the beginning of the fraternal year the Supreme Council released the Delta Church Drive (DCD) recruitment strategy. The State Officers and Membership team attended the required training and assisting several councils in hosting their own DCD's. St Cyprian Council #10008 had remarkable success holding several DCDs and should be congratulated for the phenomenal recruitment numbers they have had this year. Additionally, Potomac Council #433 hosted a DCD and a drive was held at St Mary Mother of God Parish in Chinatown during the first half of the fraternal year.

As the second half of the fraternal year began, many of the Grand Knights signed up to attend the DCD training and many Councils had worked with their pastors to schedule DCDs during Lent or shortly after Easter. Unfortunately, all these plans were postponed due to the cancellation of public Masses in the Archdiocese of Washington due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During this time of uncertainty, online membership has been the only avenue for men to join the Order so the State Council has sent out targeted Facebook ads, and have encouraged Council's to explore different ways to increase social outreach during a time of social distancing. However, our recruiting during this time has not been very successful despite our increased online presence.

The State Officers, Directors, and District Deputies stand at the ready to assist any and all Councils with their recruitment efforts.

#### **Online Membership**

Since the creation of online membership, the jurisdiction has encouraged all councils to embrace new technology to bring men into the Order and to effectively communicate with new online members. The Online Membership Coordinator has maintained email communication with online members informing them of state programs, upcoming degree ceremonies, and council interests. Additionally, the Supreme Council hosted the first online exemplification and two men advanced through all three degrees and have moved into local Councils.



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### **Close of the Fraternal Year**

Several Councils are on track to make their membership goals for the fraternal year. However, given the effect of COVID-19 on Council operations, it will be difficult for many Councils as well the State Council to reach their membership goals. It will require a team effort and the support of every leader to assist in whatever way they can. Together we can grow the Order, our Councils, and our Jurisdiction to do more, be in more places, and support more worthy causes and our Councils' programs.

Respectfully,

Joshua R. Bryant, FDD, PGK  
State Membership Director