



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

District of Columbia State Council

To: Nicholas Shields, State Deputy

From: Terence Fitzgerald, District Deputy #2

Date: April 22, 2025

Re: 2024-2025 State Evangelization & Faith Formation Director report

Cor focus

The EFF Director focused exclusively on Cor. With the SD's leadership and the input of other State officials and staff, the EFF developed an initial 'Cor implementation plan' at the outset of the fraternal year, which, after the EFF's attendance at a Supreme Cor training event, was augmented by a 'State plan' that aligned to a Supreme Cor template. Both plans centered on active communication of Cor information and opportunities to Knights leaders at State and Council levels.

Cor communication

The EFF presented on Cor at each full State meeting; procured Cor pamphlets for distribution at these meetings; spoke of his experience at the Supreme training and at Cor in his own council; offered to meet DDs, GKs, pastors, or anyone interested in starting Cor; and provided content for the State Deputy's monthly newsletter. Both the State Deputy and State Chaplain communicated earnestly and vigorously on Cor as well.

Cor implementation

Supreme has initiated an optional (voluntary) reporting mechanism through which council leadership can record Cor activity. This does not necessarily mean that a Council has started Cor; or that, if it has started it, that it has maintained it; or, if it has maintained it, if it is successful in any particular way. As of today, eight Councils have acted on Cor: 353 Keane, 433 Potomac, 4944 Immaculate Conception, 9542 CUA, 11496 Blessed Tansi, 13242 GW, 15795 San Oscar Romero, and 17611 Divine Mercy. The EFF Director does not know precisely in which councils and parishes Cor is established and thriving.

Cor reflections

The Supreme Knight established Cor as an effort to address the “...modern crisis of isolation that comes from ruptured relationships” and as a place in which men can “...grow in friendship with God and one another” and can satisfy their hunger for “...spiritual community”¹.

The EFF’s initial insights suggest that Cor can succeed only if (i) a pastor is an enthusiastic supporter who sees its wider value to evangelization in his parish, (ii) a GK or other council leader is similarly enthusiastic and sees its value to the council, to the parish, and to the wider group of men, (iii) both the pastor and the council genuinely and openly welcome all men to the gatherings.

While satisfied with the apparent Cor uptake in the outgoing fraternal year, the EFF Director wants to encourage (i) adoption of Cor by more councils and (ii) sharing of best practices & success stories between councils. Cor’s intentional focus on faith formation—quite different from the more traditional focus on service events—is both a hindrance to uptake and a rationale for it.

¹ <https://www.kofc.org/en/news-room/knightline/2024/november/spreading-the-word-about-cor.html>