



# Arizona State Council Knights of Columbus



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## Office of the State Deputy

May 21, 2021

My dear Brother Knights, Families and Friends,

On behalf of the State Officers, it is a great honor as State Deputy to welcome each of you to the 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Arizona State Council. Our host council, St. Anne's Council 10540, has put together a program that will be a wonderful and enjoyable experience for all attendees. Throughout this weekend our achievements will be highlighted, the future of the Arizona Knights of Columbus will be promoted, old friendships acknowledged, and new friendships established.

The last fifteen months have been a very trying period for us all. Due to the pandemic, we have been forced to think outside of the box and operate in different ways than normal. Many councils have been meeting and holding events virtually, a few have been totally inactive. Though faced with several challenges and obstacles, we stepped up to the plate and performed admirably. We helped our pastors reopen their parishes, delivered food to the needy, delivered ultrasound machines to pregnancy centers and recruited many new members. Arizona made Circle of Honor last year and we have a very good chance of repeating this year. I am extremely proud with what we were able to achieve together. We truly followed our year's theme of **Living our Faith Through Service and Charitable Deeds**.

The last fifteen months have been a great blessing for us all. During this period, Pope Francis formally approved a decree recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of our dear founder Father Michael J. McGivney which led to his beatification. What an outstanding time to be a Knight of Columbus.

I will continue to pray for you, the Arizona Knights of Columbus and your families, so that through your efforts, people will see the good that we do and discover why we are called the *Strong Arm of the Church*. I will also pray that this gathering will be an opportunity for us to grow in our understanding of what it means to be a Knight of Columbus and how the Knights of our State can do even more to uphold our Church's teachings and to live out the values that we hold so dear.

May this State Convention be the vehicle for us to get back on track to fulfil our mission to empower Catholic men to live their faith at home, in their parish, at work and in their community.

Vivat Jesus!

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "M Vassallo".

Mario Vassallo  
State Deputy  
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**Living Our Faith Through Service and Charitable Deeds**