





**Knights of
Columbus®**

Calling Men to Authentic Knighthood

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**Knights of
Columbus®**

COR

“Cor ad cor loquitor” – “Heart speaks to Heart”
- John Henry Cardinal Newman

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Overview of Evangelization and Faith Formation





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McGivney's Vision

**Evangelization is
Growth**



Knights in the 21st Century

- ◆ Evangelization and faith formation were key to Blessed Michael McGivney's vision for the Knights to keep men Catholic in the 19th Century
- ◆ We must be more intentional to fulfill this vision in the secular society of the 21st Century
- ◆ The Cor Meeting enables us to fulfill Blessed Michael McGivney's vision and meet the needs of Catholic men, young and old



Waterbury Evening Democrat

“It was Father McGivney’s purpose in instituting the Knights of Columbus, to keep the young men of his parish within the household of the faith, to preserve them from the taint of infidelity.... It was his aim to Surround his proteges with an atmosphere of religion and to bring them into even closer relationship to Mother Church.”

- Fr. O'Donnell's Address
Monday, June 11, 1900



Supreme Charter

“Through common worship, charitable works, meetings, and rites of initiation, to ***form its members*** in Catholic faith and virtue.”

- Sec. 2, Charter Constitution and Laws



Learning From the Field

- ◆ Young men are looking for:
 - ◆ Faith-centered approach to membership
 - ◆ Content and fraternity that help them grow in faith and become better men, husbands, and fathers
- ◆ What parishes and families need:
 - ◆ Men to grow as faithful leaders
 - ◆ Formation and accountability for men



Men's Formation Data

- ◆ Catholic young adults (18-35) - 60% indicated that they participate in a faith-related group outside of attending Mass at their parish
- ◆ Exodus 90 - Monthly small groups - 25K Catholic men participated January to Easter 2022
- ◆ That Man is You - Weekly small groups - 50K Catholic men meet in 500 parishes
- ◆ Into the Breach - 81.4% of views on YouTube (436,000) are young adults (18-35)



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The Cor Meeting

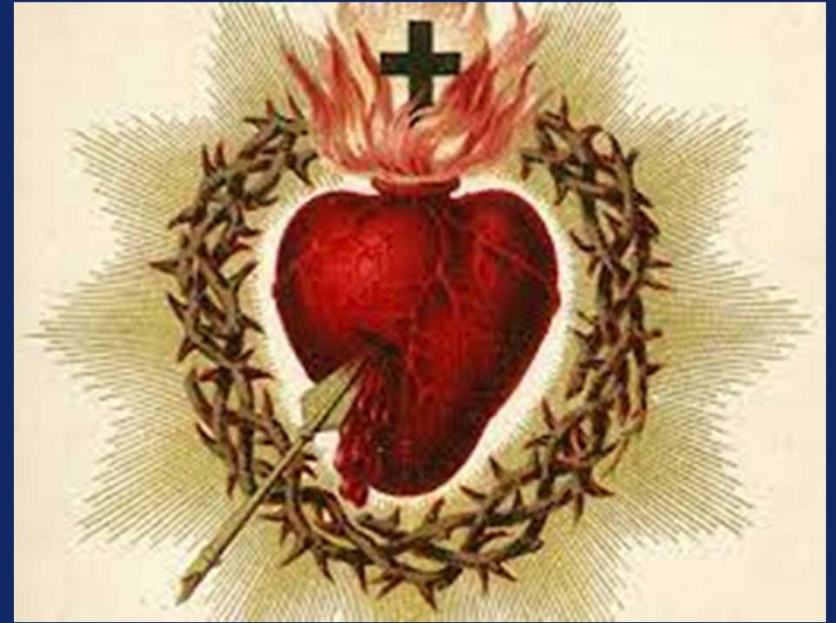
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Cor Meeting

- ◆ Additional meeting for the council focusing on men's formation
- ◆ Optional
- ◆ Held monthly
- ◆ Three key and required elements:
 - ◆ Prayer
 - ◆ Formation
 - ◆ Fraternity



Cor Meeting

- ◆ The Cor Meeting exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity.
- ◆ The goal of each Cor Meeting is to provide the opportunity for men to encounter Christ (to be evangelized), to strengthen our bonds of brotherhood, and to prepare for the courageous mission of evangelization.



Three Key Elements

Prayer

Through prayer we strengthen our relationship with God as disciples (followers) of Jesus Christ and grow in our knowledge of Him.

(Examples: Rosary, Holy Hour, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Lectio Divina)

Formation

The aim of Catholic formation is to be like Christ, taking on his character and virtue, life of prayer, and his mission.

(Examples: Faith-inspired talks by clergy or others, reading a spiritual reflection, Into the Breach Video Series, Supreme Chaplain's Monthly Challenge, small group discussion)

Fraternity

The Cor Meeting brings men together as a band of brothers to strengthen each other in friendship and fraternity.

(Examples: Social events, BBQ, bonfire, intentional conversation, and shared meals i.e. donuts and coffee or pizza and beverages.)



Cor Meeting Examples

Cor Meeting - Fraternity Centered (60 – 90 min.)

1. Fraternity: Pizza (or donuts and coffee if in AM)
2. Formation: 15 min. faith-inspired talk by Chaplain
3. Prayer: Request intentions and pray Rosary

Cor Meeting - Formation Centered (60 – 90 min.)

1. Formation: *Into the Breach* Video and small group discussion
2. Prayer: 30 min. of Eucharistic Adoration
3. Fraternity: Sharing a meal



Integration & Impact of Cor Meeting within the Council

- ◆ Improves the overall member experience
- ◆ Reminds men of Blessed McGivney's vision for Knights to grow as Catholic men
- ◆ Strengthens Faith in Action programs and council events
- ◆ Drives council growth
- ◆ Increases collaboration with pastor/chaplain
- ◆ Engages men of the parish



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Sample Meeting



Opening Prayer

From the Collect of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God,
and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving,
for the ascension of Christ your son
is our exaltation,
and, where the head has gone before in glory,
the Body is called to follow in hope.

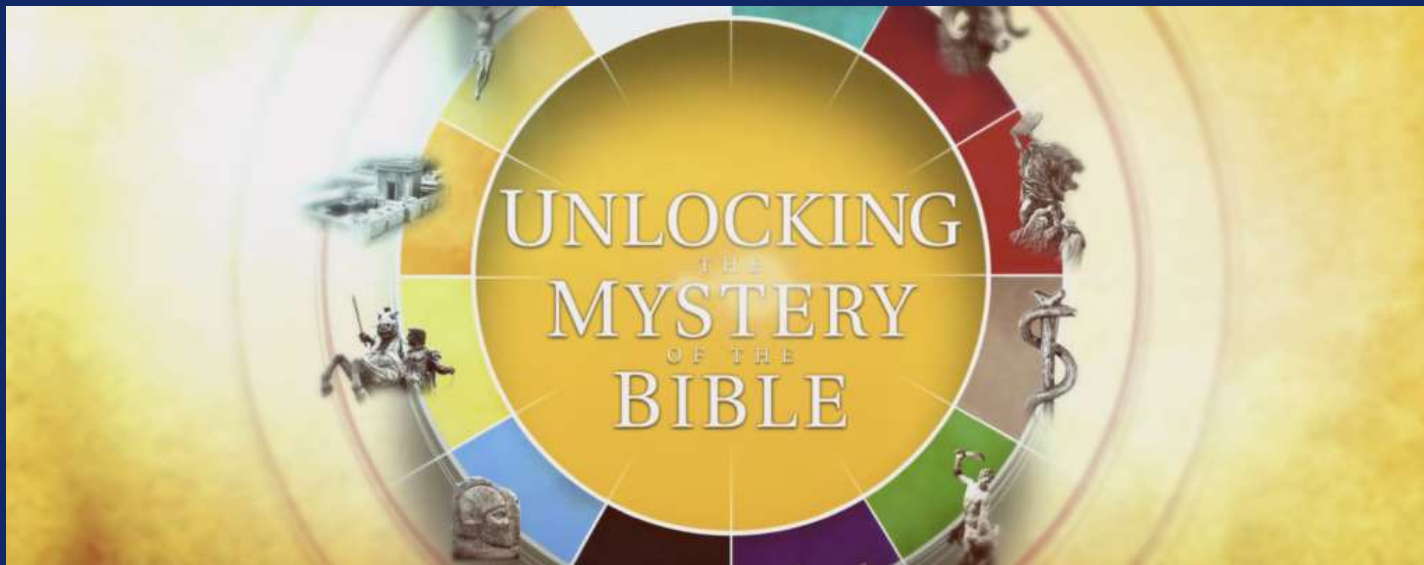
Through our lord Jesus Christ, your son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the holy spirit,
God, for ever and ever.



Formation

Video

Jeff Cavins - Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible





Scripture

Matthew 28:16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee,
to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them.
When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.
Then Jesus approached and said to them,
“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.
And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”



Discussion

- † What does it mean to you to say that Christ is “king” over all the angels, over all earthly kingdoms, the entire universe? What is the implication of this reality for our daily lives, in our Council lives?
- † What does “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations” mean to you as a Knight, as a member of a faith community, as a husband, father, friend, work associate?



Our Lady, Queen of the Knights

Our Lady, Queen of the Knights, bless all the activities of our Order.
Keep us true to the pledge, to extend the kingship of thy Divine Son on earth.

Through Thine intercession, win for us the grace ever to exemplify in our public and private lives, the virtues that should characterize those especially dedicated to the service of the heavenly court.

Make us always aware that as your Knights, we are constantly observed, our faith judged, and our Order appreciated.

Accept, O Mary, this renewed pledge of fealty and devotion, of Thy Servants,
the Knights of Columbus. Amen.



Closing Remarks / Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you.

We give you thanks for the many blessings you have showered upon us, especially the blessing of the charism of almsgiving, with which your Knights have performed uncounted acts of love and charity, for both those within our Order and their families, and with our brothers and sisters in the innumerable parishes and communities in which they serve.

Father, as your Knights, we ask you for the gift of the Holy Spirit, to increase our faith, to be better servants of your holy Church, to enliven and set our Councils on fire with love of Christ, driven to spread the word of Christ, and to become faithful beacons of light, leading others to Christ. Amen.



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Implementation



Why did I join the Knights?



General Considerations

- 1. Proceed Gently**
- 2. Avoid Silos**
- 3. Needs Dictate Function, Which Dictates Form**
- 4. Cor must be seen as potentially useful**
- 5. Cor is not about the numbers**
- 6. There is a great need**



Implementation of Cor Meetings

1. **No Man Left Behind—Catholic Edition**
2. **Engage the Pastor**
3. **Assessment**
4. **Form an EFFF Team**
5. **Outreach**
6. **Ongoing Collaboration**
7. **PRAY!**
8. **Consultation**



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What's Next?



State EFF Structure

State Evangelization and Faith Formation Team:

- ◆ State Director of EFF
- ◆ State EFF Team Members
- ◆ Agency Rep

Council:

- ◆ Council Director of EFF
- ◆ Cor Meeting Team



How to Get Started

- 1. Grand Knight to review guidebook and discuss with Pastor and/or chaplain.**
- 2. Grand Knight to appoint a Council Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF)**
 - a. Council Director of EFF to identify two additional council members to help shoulder the Cor Meeting planning and development.**
- 3. Presentation to the council at the Council Meeting**



Invitation



