





**Knights of
Columbus®**

**Knights of Columbus
Evangelization Initiative &
The Cor Meeting**

December 10, 2022

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Blessed McGivney's Vision



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



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 Evangelization and Faith Formation initiative and the Cor Meeting enable us to fulfill Blessed Michael McGivney's vision and meet the needs of Catholic men, young and old



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





The Cor Meeting

Cor ad cor loquitor - "Heart speaks to Heart"
- John Henry Cardinal Newman



Cor Meeting

- ◆ Additional meeting for the council focusing on men's formation
- ◆ Optional
- ◆ Open to all men of the parish
- ◆ 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: Into the Breach Video Series, Supreme Chaplain's Monthly Challenge, small group discussion or Bible Study, Faith-inspired talks by clergy or others, reading a spiritual reflection)

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, council events, and council leadership
- ◆ Drives council growth
- ◆ Increases collaboration with pastor/chaplain
- ◆ Engages men of the parish



State EFF Support Structure

State Evangelization and Faith Formation Team:

- ◆ State Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF)
- ◆ State EFF Team Members
- ◆ Agency Partnership

Council:

- ◆ Council Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF)
- ◆ Cor Meeting Team



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What's next?



Strategy and Patience

Keep it simple

Start small

Learn from experience

Improve upon it

Let it grow over time



Immediate Next Steps

District Deputies

- ◆ Following State Deputy invitation to Grand Knights, continue encouraging councils to adopt the Cor Meeting
- ◆ Have Cor Meeting resources available
- ◆ Connect interested Grand Knights with the State EFF Team

Grand Knights

- ◆ Review Cor Meeting resources
- ◆ Identify and appoint Council Director of EFF
 - ◆ Connect him with State Director of EFF
- ◆ Meet with your pastor



