



**Knights of  
Columbus®**  
Colorado  
State Council

*Worthy State Deputy, State Officers, Past State Deputies, District Deputies, Grand Knights, and Delegates:*

Enclosed for your review are the proposed resolutions to be considered at the 2026 Colorado State Convention. I ask each Grand Knight to ensure that this packet is placed in the hands of your delegates. Councils are encouraged to review these resolutions in advance, so that delegates may come prepared to participate thoughtfully and to vote in a manner that reflects both the voice of their council and the good of the Order.

Delegates should bring a copy of the resolutions to the State Convention and to any meetings of the Resolutions Committee. Additional copies will not be distributed on site.

In advance of the Convention, a meeting of the Resolutions Committee was held. Those appointed received separate communication with the details. While all Brother Knights were welcome to observe, the responsibility entrusted to the committee was to review each resolution carefully and to bring forward clear and appropriate recommendations. As with all such proceedings, proper order and decorum were maintained so that the work could be carried out with clarity and purpose.

As a reminder, the following guidelines remain in effect:

1. In accordance with the State Council Bylaws, all resolutions were required to be submitted to the State Advocate by the established deadline.
2. Campaign signs may not exceed two (2) square feet, are limited to three (3) within a hospitality area, and may not contain the word "VOTE."
3. A campaign sign is defined as any sign that may be interpreted as soliciting support for a candidate, council, or issue. The use of pins or tags bearing the Knights of Columbus name or emblem is not permitted and is governed by Supreme By-Laws, Section 162, Part 23.
4. The Consent Calendar process will be used for the consideration of resolutions at the Convention; delegates are asked to review the accompanying explanation carefully.

The work of the Convention, and particularly the work of these resolutions, is not merely procedural. It is an exercise of our shared responsibility to give clear witness to the principles of our Order and to the life of the Church.

If you have any questions, I remain available, mindful of our call to "always be ready to give an explanation...for a reason for our hope" (1 Peter 3:15).

Vivat Jesus,

*Stephen Sweeney*

Stephen Sweeney

Colorado State Advocate

# THE CONSENT CALENDAR

## Purpose

The Consent Calendar is a parliamentary tool used to assist the Convention in addressing resolutions in a clear, orderly, and efficient manner, particularly those not expected to require extended discussion.

## Use

All resolutions are initially placed on the Consent Calendar. Each resolution will be presented by number and title, together with the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee. Those that remain on the Consent Calendar will be acted upon in accordance with that recommendation.

## Procedure

The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee will present each resolution by number and title and state the committee's recommendation.

If there is no objection, the resolution will remain on the Consent Calendar, and the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee will become the action of the State Council.

If a delegate wishes to remove a resolution for consideration, he should approach a microphone, identify himself by name, council, and delegate status, and state "I wish to remove this resolution from the Consent Calendar," or simply, "Objection." The resolution will then be removed without discussion.

After all resolutions have been presented, those remaining on the Consent Calendar will be adopted or rejected in accordance with the committee's recommendations.

Resolutions removed from the Consent Calendar will be taken up later during the business session for discussion and vote, in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. Time for discussion will be structured, with opportunity for speakers both for and against, prior to a vote of the body.

## **RESOLUTION #1: DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES**

**WHEREAS**, this year will be 126 years since the first charter was granted to a council of the Knights of Columbus in Colorado, namely Denver Council 539 on November 18, 1900; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate that the Colorado State Council, at its 124<sup>th</sup> Convention, reaffirm and clearly declare the principles and objectives upon which our Order was founded; and

**WHEREAS**, our Order has prospered, and our membership has grown in numbers in the State of Colorado, while remaining ever mindful of the three following factors which are requisite to the support of the Clergy and the Laity.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus, in convention assembled, reaffirm its commitment to the following declaration of principles:

1. To provide a system of fraternal insurance to care for members of the Order and the widows and children of its members.
2. To provide fellowship amongst the members.
3. To perform charitable, educational, and patriotic works for the benefit of our fellowman, our communities and our nation.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

## **RESOLUTION #2: PLEDGE OF SUPPORT TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Knight, the Board of Directors, and the Supreme Council provide spiritual, fraternal, and administrative leadership for the worldwide Order of the Knights of Columbus.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Colorado Knights of Columbus pledge to the Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly, the Board of Directors and the Supreme Council, our fraternal support as they faithfully lead the Order in communion with the pastoral guidance of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV with the fervent prayer that Almighty God will continue to grant them good health, wisdom and inspiration for their continued leadership of our Order and that under their able leadership, the achievements of the Knights of Columbus may continue to grow in our state.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

## **RESOLUTION #3: SALUTATIONS TO THE SUPREME CHAPLAIN**

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Chaplain provides essential spiritual guidance and pastoral leadership to the Knights of Columbus worldwide.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we express our deepest and most sincere appreciation to the Most Reverend William E. Lori for his spiritual direction and leadership during the past fraternal year in the position of Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, Archbishop of Baltimore; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we hereby pledge him our continued loyalty, support and prayers.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

#### **RESOLUTION #4: IN HONOR OF POPE LEO XIV**

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Council and numerous jurisdictions have expressed profound respect, unity, and filial devotion to His Holiness Pope Leo XIV for his pastoral leadership, his authentic proclamation of the Gospel, and his fatherly guidance of the universal Church; and

**WHEREAS**, the Holy Father continues to encourage the Church to deepen its missionary discipleship, strengthen families, defend human dignity, and uphold the sanctity of life at every stage; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus, founded in fidelity to the Catholic Church and in loyalty to the Successor of Saint Peter, remain steadfast in supporting the Holy Father's teaching and pastoral mission.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus, in convention assembled, expresses its profound gratitude, fraternal loyalty, and prayerful support for Pope Leo XIV; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we commit ourselves to promoting and living the Holy Father's call to evangelization, charity, and faithful witness in our parishes, families, and communities.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

#### **RESOLUTION #5: APPRECIATION OF THE CLERGY**

**WHEREAS**, our Bishops, Priests, Deacons, and Chaplains provide essential sacramental, pastoral, and spiritual leadership to the members of the Knights of Columbus; and

**WHEREAS**, the clergy give generously of their time, prayer, and ministry to support the mission of the Order in parishes and communities across Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, our Bishops, Priests, Deacons, and Chaplains are vital and contributing members of the Order.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that all members of the Colorado State Council show their appreciation by cooperating with, and providing meaningful support to, our Bishops, Priests, Deacons, and Chaplains; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Convention Delegation rise and show their appreciation to our Bishops, Priests, Deacons, and Chaplains.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

#### **RESOLUTION #6: IN GRATITUDE FOR THE PRIESTLY AND EPISCOPAL SERVICE OF ARCHBISHOP SAMUEL J. AQUILA**

**WHEREAS**, Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Denver on June 5, 1976, following his formation and discernment in the Church; and

**WHEREAS**, Archbishop Aquila served with faithful and humble pastoral zeal in parish ministry for many years, including roles in parish leadership, education, and formation, forming generations of Catholics in the love of Christ; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 12, 2001, he was appointed Coadjutor Bishop of the Diocese of Fargo, was consecrated a bishop on August 24, 2001, and succeeded as Bishop of Fargo on March 18, 2002, shepherding the faithful of North Dakota for a decade; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Benedict XVI appointed him Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Denver on May 29, 2012, and he was installed on July 18, 2012, returning to lead the Church in the archdiocese where he had first been ordained; and

**WHEREAS**, Archbishop Aquila has served the People of God in Denver with deep pastoral care, doctrinal fidelity, and steadfast commitment to the spiritual growth of families, priests, religious, and lay faithful throughout his more than thirteen years in that ministry; and

**WHEREAS**, his episcopal ministry has been marked by a zealous commitment to evangelization, liturgical life, priestly formation, and strengthening the Catholic identity of the local Church, leaving a lasting spiritual legacy and deep affection among the people he has served; and

**WHEREAS**, Archbishop Aquila submitted his resignation in accordance with canon law upon reaching the age of 75, and his retirement as Archbishop of Denver was accepted February 7, 2026 by Pope Leo XIV, after nearly five decades of faithful service as priest and bishop; and

**WHEREAS**, this body of brother Knights recognizes the blessing his ministry has been to the Church in Colorado and beyond, and especially appreciates his friendship, encouragement, and witness to Catholic men in fraternal service and spiritual commitment;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus expresses its profound gratitude to Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila for his long and faithful priestly and episcopal service, including his years as a priest, Bishop of Fargo, and Archbishop of Denver; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Brother Knights of Colorado offer prayers of thanksgiving for Archbishop Aquila's ministry, and pray that the Lord grant him peace, continued grace, and spiritual joy in his retirement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be entered into the permanent minutes of the Colorado State Convention as a testimony to the esteem and gratitude of this body for a shepherd who has served Christ's flock with loyalty, charity, and love.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

#### **RESOLUTION 7: AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR ARCHBISHOP JAMES R. GOLKA**

**WHEREAS**, the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, has appointed Most Reverend James R. Golka as Archbishop-Designate of the Archdiocese of Denver, to succeed Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila upon his retirement; and

**WHEREAS**, Archbishop Golka was born on September 22, 1966, in Grand Island, Nebraska, the son of Robert and Patricia Golka, and one of ten children, and was ordained to the priesthood on June 3, 1994 for the Diocese of Grand Island; and

**WHEREAS**, following his priestly ordination, Archbishop Golka served faithfully in parochial ministry and in key diocesan leadership roles, including pastor, director of diocesan clergy formation, vicar general, and rector of the Cathedral of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and

**WHEREAS**, he was appointed Bishop of the Diocese of Colorado Springs on April 30, 2021, and was consecrated on June 29, 2021, where he shepherded the faithful of that diocese with pastoral zeal, fostering evangelization, stewardship, and Catholic identity; and

**WHEREAS**, Archbishop Golka is widely respected for his commitment to the Gospel, his deep devotion to the Eucharist and Catholic doctrine, and his own pastoral experience in parish, diocesan, and educational ministries; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus share a common mission with Archbishop Golka in supporting families, strengthening parish life, and encouraging Catholic men to lives of faith, charity, and fraternity;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus affirms its prayerful support for Archbishop James R. Golka as he assumes the spiritual leadership of the Archdiocese of Denver; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we pledge our prayers, collaboration, and fraternal support to him in carrying out the mission entrusted by the Holy Father, confident that his ministry will foster a deep encounter with Christ throughout the Church in Colorado; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be entered into the permanent record of the Colorado State Convention as a testimony of esteem, gratitude, and fraternal solidarity with Archbishop Golka in his new pastoral office.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

#### **RESOLUTION #8: SINCERE GRATITUDE TO OUR WIVES AND FAMILIES**

**WHEREAS**, the good works done by all members of the Knights of Columbus would not be possible without the support and encouragement of their families; and

**WHEREAS**, we acknowledge the love and support of our wives, children, and other family members who make it possible for us to spread Charity and evangelize in the name of the Knights of Columbus.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we express our profound sincere appreciation to our wives and families.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

#### **RESOLUTION #9: THANKING THE LADIES AUXILIARIES**

**WHEREAS**, Ladies Auxiliaries have been formed alongside many of the Councils throughout the State and have proven their immense value and service to the local Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Council recognizes that ladies' auxiliaries help local councils fulfill their charitable and fraternal purposes.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the individual councils thank their ladies' auxiliaries for their contributions and service, during the past year; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the State Secretary of the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus forwards a copy of this resolution to the State President of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

#### **RESOLUTION #10: THANKING THE FOURTH DEGREE HONOR GUARD**

**WHEREAS**, through the dedicated leadership and support of the District Master and District Marshals, the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus have participated in various patriotic activities and providing numerous Honor Guards for events throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS**, Honor Guards performed at Funeral and Memorial Masses provide the unconditional respect and recognition of a Brother Knight or family member; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fourth Degree is the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus and preeminently represents the Order publicly in marches and other events; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fourth Degree is the highest Degree within the Knights of Columbus.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that all Fourth Degree members of this convention rise and be recognized with a resounding salutation of thanks from this Convention delegation.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

## **RESOLUTION #11: IN MEMORY OF THE DECEASED**

**WHEREAS**, each year we pause to remember our Brother Knights and family members who have been called from this life into eternal life.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we members of the Colorado State Council, recalling to memory our absent Brothers and family members who have passed on to their eternal reward and with grateful appreciation of their contributions to our growth and progress, extend our sincere sympathy to their bereaved families by kneeling and reciting a Hail Mary and a Glory Be.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

## **RESOLUTION #12: SUPPORT FOR THE ARMED FORCES**

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus support for the armed forces dates to the early 20th century, most notably with the establishment of the Knights of Columbus morale centers supporting the welfare of Allied troops during the First World War; and

**WHEREAS**, our support for the armed forces continues to the present day; and

**WHEREAS**, many of our Brother Knights, along with thousands of other servicemen and women, are presently deployed in hostile and unstable regions around the world in efforts to combat terrorism, maintain order and promote peace; and

**WHEREAS**, many of these men and women have heroically given their lives or sustained serious or debilitating injury while deployed in the service of their country; and

**WHEREAS**, many thousands of veterans and active/reserve Armed Forces members live in the State of Colorado, a presence in nearly every Knights of Columbus Council in the State; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights and families of the Colorado jurisdiction have a great appreciation of the sacrifices of the men and women of the Armed Forces, veterans and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of ongoing global conflicts—including continuing war in Eastern Europe and new tensions emerging in regions around the world—our servicemen and women face increasing strain, uncertainty, and danger, along with significant impacts on military families.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Colorado Knights of Columbus reaffirms our unequivocal gratitude, support, and encouragement for the men and women of the armed forces who defend our liberties and freedoms; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we remain steadfast in our commitment to recognize the contributions of every service member on Active Duty, the Guard, and the Reserves, and all veterans and retired service members; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the delegates assembled at this year's Colorado State Council Convention, rise and show their appreciation for the Members of the Armed Forces, our veterans and their families; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we now pause in our deliberations to pay tribute to those men and women who have suffered serious combat injuries and to pray for the souls of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives in the defense of the nation.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

## **RESOLUTION #13: SUPPORT FOR FIRST RESPONDERS**

**WHEREAS**, first responders – those engaged in law enforcement, firefighting, and emergency medical services – provide invaluable services by taking responsibility for the health and safety of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the people engaged in these services, who are, in some cases, volunteers and are drawn from the communities they serve and are committed to aiding their neighbors in the model of the Good Samaritan; and

**WHEREAS**, for nearly 80 years, the Knights of Columbus has sponsored the Matthews and Swift Educational Trust Scholarship which was founded as a living memorial to veterans of the Second World War and supports the educational needs of the children of Knights of Columbus members who lost their lives in the line of duty while serving in the military, in law enforcement, or as a firefighter; and

**WHEREAS**, in a speech to Italian police, Pope Francis remarked, “Your service, often not adequately admired, places you at the heart of society and, for its high value, I do not hesitate to define it as a mission, to undertake with honor and a deep sense of duty, to the service of man and of the common good;” and

**WHEREAS**, the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, has regularly encouraged prayers for first responders during his opportunities to meet with them or when expressing his sorrow at the tragedies to which these brave men and women respond; and

**WHEREAS**, Colorado continues to experience rising wildfire threats, severe weather emergencies, and staffing shortages in emergency medical services, increasing the demands placed on first responders across the state.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus expresses its deep appreciation and continued solidarity with all first responders and their families; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we renew our support for members of law enforcement agencies who professionally perform their duties with a sense of justice; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we commend the men and women who respond to fires and similar emergencies in our communities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we express profound gratitude to emergency medical service professionals who answer the call daily to save the lives of their fellow men; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we commit our prayers for the health and safety of all first responders to the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel while continuing to support special Masses, liturgical celebrations, and other appropriate services honoring these brave members of our communities.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

## **RESOLUTION #14: BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE**

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus has a deep and historic commitment to oppose any government action or policy that promotes abortion, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning, euthanasia, assisted suicide, or other offenses against life; and

**WHEREAS**, the Order supports programs that provide women facing crisis pregnancies with alternatives to abortion, including adoption, and that we support projects that provide spiritual support to those women suffering from the traumatic emotional and psychological aftereffects of abortion; and

**WHEREAS**, the Order’s Ultrasound Program begun in 2009 has provided a window into the womb by placing over 2,000 ultrasound machines in 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Republic of Korea, and a growing number of Canadian provinces, with the 2,000<sup>th</sup> machine placed in September 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, in July 2022 the Supreme Council launched the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) Program to support the hundreds of pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes—collectively serving nearly two

million expectant mothers, parents, and babies in the United States—by providing over \$17,000,000 since its inception; and

**WHEREAS**, we reaffirm our commitment to building a “culture of life” by promoting policies that favor the family, and by recognizing that it is within strong and healthy families that moral values are taught and the spiritual heritage of the nation is transmitted; and

**WHEREAS**, in his apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis reminded us that, “Among the vulnerable for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us...this defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right. It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development;” and

**WHEREAS**, in his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis reiterated that “Since everything is interrelated, concern for the protection of nature is also incompatible with the justification of abortion;” and

**WHEREAS**, in remarks shortly after his election to the See of Peter, Pope Leo XIV reiterated that “no one is exempted from striving to ensure respect for the dignity of every person, especially the most frail and vulnerable, from the unborn to the elderly, from the sick to the unemployed, citizens and immigrants alike;” and

**WHEREAS**, since the Dobbs decision, states—including Colorado—have become battlegrounds for the legal status of abortion, increasing the importance of walking with mothers in need, supporting maternity homes and pregnancy centers, and promoting alternatives to abortion.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we will continue to speak out to our elected representatives about the need to enact legislation protecting human life in all its stages; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we believe women deserve better than abortion and will continue to support alternatives to abortion, including adoption, and that we support projects which provide spiritual support to those women and men suffering from the traumatic emotional and psychological aftereffects of abortion; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that through our Ultrasound Initiative and the ASAP Program, we will continue to support pregnancy care centers and maternity homes so that they can provide the necessary resources and support that help mothers to choose life and both rear and care for their children; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus will continue to uphold the Catholic Church’s authoritative teaching on the sanctity of life from conception to natural death, as explained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, *Laudato Si'*, and other magisterial documents; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we reaffirm our long-standing policies of not inviting to any Knights of Columbus event, persons, especially public officials or candidates for public office, who do not support the legal protection of unborn children, or who advocate the legalization of assisted suicide or euthanasia, and that we prohibit such persons from renting or otherwise using facilities over which our members have control, or speaking at Knights of Columbus events, or bestowing on them honors or privileges of our Order of any kind, or inviting them to serve as honorary chairpersons of events, celebrations, or committees, or hold any office in the Knights of Columbus; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we once again commit ourselves to praying the Rosary frequently, to fasting and to doing penance in reparation for the evils perpetrated against the gift of life and that we seek the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who herself said “yes” to life, to intercede on our behalf for the establishment of a “culture of life.”

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

## **RESOLUTION #15: SUPPORT FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus have been longtime supporters of Special Olympics; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council has donated more than \$600,000,000 since 2005 and has encouraged councils to actively support Special Olympics at all levels through fundraising and volunteerism; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Special Olympics provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Special Olympics promote understanding, acceptance, and inclusion between people with and without intellectual disabilities; and  
**WHEREAS**, Special Olympics offers 30-plus Olympic-style individual and team sports providing training and competition events for athletes with intellectual disabilities; and  
**WHEREAS**, Special Olympics is a force dedicated to driving social change that enables full social participation for people with intellectual disabilities.  
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Colorado Knights of Columbus hereby supports and recognizes the outstanding contributions of the Special Olympics and encourages continued involvement and support from the community to enhance the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities; and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Colorado Knights of Columbus commits to promoting the values of acceptance, inclusion, and respect for all individuals, regardless of ability, and will work towards fostering a community where everyone has the opportunity to participate in sports and recreational activities;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all Councils are strongly encouraged to actively support Special Olympics at the local, state and national levels financially or through volunteerism or both.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

## **RESOLUTION #16: SUPPORT FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY**

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Council annually affirms the importance of supporting and defending the institution of marriage as the union of one man and one woman ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of children; and  
**WHEREAS**, strong marriages and healthy families are essential to the life of the Church, the moral formation of children, and the strengthening of society; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus is uniquely positioned to accompany families in living out their vocation as a Domestic Church.  
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Colorado State Council reaffirms its steadfast commitment to the Church's teaching on the Sacrament of Marriage; and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that councils throughout Colorado be encouraged to promote programs, retreats, resources, and opportunities that support married couples, strengthen family life, and foster a culture in which the vocation of Christian marriage can flourish.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

**RESOLUTION #17: SUPPORT FOR THE COR INITIATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Council has encouraged the widespread adoption of the COR initiative as a means of strengthening the spiritual lives of Catholic men; and  
**WHEREAS**, COR seeks to deepen masculine spirituality, foster fraternity, and renew parish life through prayer, formation, and authentic Christian friendship; and  
**WHEREAS**, this initiative aligns fully with the founding mission of the Knights of Columbus to form faithful Catholic men committed to charity, unity, and fraternity.  
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Colorado State Council strongly encourages all councils to explore, adopt, or expand COR groups within their parishes as a means of deepening spiritual growth among members; and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that councils be urged to collaborate closely with pastors to integrate COR into parish life and to provide ongoing support and leadership for this initiative.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

**RESOLUTION #18: SUPPORT OF PROMOTING THE HOLY ROSARY THROUGH COLLABORATION WITH THE ROSARY TEAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus, through its Faith in Action “Faith” programs, encourages councils to promote devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary to strengthen the spiritual life of their members and communities; and  
**WHEREAS**, The Rosary Team is a lay apostolate dedicated to bringing the Holy Rosary and the comfort of spiritual companionship to residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities, many of whom experience loneliness, illness, or separation from family; and  
**WHEREAS**, this mission naturally complements the Knights of Columbus’ principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity, and reflects the vision of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, who called us to care for the widowed, the orphaned, and the vulnerable; and  
**WHEREAS**, councils that assist or participate with The Rosary Team provide a visible witness of faith, extend the reach of Marian devotion, and bring hope and comfort to those in need of prayer and companionship;  
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Council 1183 of the Knights of Columbus encourages its members to support and participate in ministries such as The Rosary Team that foster Marian devotion and serve the elderly and vulnerable in our communities; and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be submitted to the Colorado State Council for consideration, and that the State Council encourage councils statewide to engage in similar collaborative spiritual works consistent with the Faith in Action framework.

Submitted by Boulder Council 1183

**Committee Recommends: NO ACTION**

**RESOLUTION #19: IN HONOR OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS**

**WHEREAS**, in 1492 Christopher Columbus obtained permission and financial support from the King and Queen of Spain to sail west across the Atlantic Ocean in search of new trade routes; and  
**WHEREAS**, on October 12 of that year, Columbus’ expedition landed in what is today the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, immediately erecting a cross and naming the island San Salvador, in honor of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World; and

**WHEREAS**, Columbus established a policy that his men were to treat the native people in the New World with respect, pursuant to which he sentenced to death men who disobeyed this order, which resulted in his own arrest and return to Spain in chains; and

**WHEREAS**, the 16th century historian Bartolomé de las Casas, who exposed terrible abuses of native peoples, defended Columbus' motivations saying, "...I knew him well and I know his intentions are good;" and

**WHEREAS**, on the 400th anniversary of Columbus' first voyage to the Americas, Pope Leo XIII reflected on Columbus' strong Catholic faith writing, "it is fitting that we should confess and celebrate in an especial manner the will and designs of the Eternal Wisdom, under whose guidance the discoverer of the New World placed himself with a devotion so touching," and ordered the celebration of Solemn Mass of the Most Holy Trinity in honor of the occasion; and

**WHEREAS**, U.S. President Benjamin Harrison similarly commemorated the anniversary by declaring a national Columbus holiday that year to provide, "expressions of gratitude to Divine Providence for the devout faith of the discoverer, and for the divine care and guidance which has directed our history and so abundantly blessed our people;" and

**WHEREAS**, at the height of the nativist (anti-immigrant) and anti-Catholic sentiment of the late 19th century, Columbus was chosen as the Order's namesake because he was one of the few Catholics considered a hero of American history, and because the founding members of the Order believed the explorer symbolized that faithful Catholics can also be patriotic American citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1906 the Knights of Columbus advocated for the construction of a monument in Washington, DC in honor of Columbus and, when it was completed in 1912, President William Howard Taft presided at the dedication ceremony which was attended by several foreign ambassadors, thousands of Knights of Columbus, and thousands more interested spectators leading to the observation that "every possible vantage point was filled;" and

**WHEREAS**, several states began establishing holidays in honor of Columbus and, following the strong urging of the Knights of Columbus and several civic organizations, the United States declared Columbus Day a federal holiday in 1937; and

**WHEREAS**, the strong Catholic identity associated with Columbus Day led the Ku Klux Klan to denounce the celebration of the holiday as a "papal fraud" and even burn a cross at a Knights of Columbus celebration of Columbus Day in Pennsylvania; and

**WHEREAS**, to further accomplish its anti-Catholic goals in the United States, the Klan, and other nativist forces, initiated a campaign to disparage Columbus, claiming that he was not a hero, but rather just another foreign conqueror who was guilty of genocide, slavery, and oppression; and

**WHEREAS**, in recent years, these claims have been repeated, with misinformation about Columbus, leading to the elimination of favorable references to Columbus and the removal of monuments commemorating him, many of which were first established by Catholic immigrants seeking to establish their place in American society; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus includes many members of Native American and First Nation tribes among its ranks and works with these brother Knights and their families to address the challenges faced by indigenous communities, as well as to develop specific programs promoting the unique traditions of their Catholic faith; and

**WHEREAS**, in the spirit of Columbus, who sought to partner with the peaceful indigenous people he encountered, the Knights of Columbus is sharing the culture of Native American and First Nation communities through its documentary, *Enduring Faith: The Story of Native American Catholicism*, promoting devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe, and establishing a shrine dedicated to St. Kateri Tekakwitha, the first indigenous American saint.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus remains steadfast in its support of Christopher Columbus as our namesake, state and federal holidays established in his honor, and public monuments and commemorations dedicated to his life and historical contributions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will, without diminishing the unique contributions of native peoples to the remarkable cultural tapestry of the Americas, encourage our public officials to preserve the intended spirit of the public holiday tradition with its cultural and patriotic implications, and not allow it to be undermined or diminished by neglect, dilution, or replacement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call on state and local leaders to establish separate monuments, or other commemorations, that properly honor the contributions and centuries-long history of the native people of North America; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we commit our prayers for greater civility, peace, and understanding between all peoples to the intercession of our Blessed Mother, Patroness of the Americas, and namesake of Columbus's lead ship on that historic 15<sup>th</sup> century journey.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

#### **RESOLUTION #20: IN DEFENSE OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**

**WHEREAS**, the Second Vatican Council declared in *Dignitatis Humanae* that the right to religious freedom is based upon the inherent dignity of the human person, which requires that all people are to be free from coercion in matters of belief and conscience, and that no one should be forced to act in a manner contrary to his or her own beliefs or conscience; and

**WHEREAS**, the right to religious freedom is guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and other documents recognizing religious freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, religious freedom is not a benefit that a government confers out of a sense of mere tolerance, which can be removed, but rather it is an inalienable right, rooted in the transcendent dignity of every human being; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis has called religious freedom "a fundamental right of man," that is "not simply freedom of thought or private worship" but "the freedom to live according to ethical principles, both privately and publicly;" and

**WHEREAS**, since its founding, the Knights of Columbus has worked to defend religious freedom for all people and has done so out of a commitment to our faith and our unshakeable belief that religious freedom is a basic human right; and

**WHEREAS**, the Order's work on behalf of religious freedom included the Supreme Knight's pledge of continued support for persecuted Christians in Nigeria, where more than 4,000 Christians were killed for their faith from October 2022 to September 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, our work for religious freedom also included protesting the persecution of Catholics in Mexico in the 1920s; efforts to combat the anti-religious worldview of Communism; and the inclusion of the phrase "under God" in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance to distinguish the United States from anti-religious governments; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis has urged the Knights of Columbus to draw the attention of Catholic Americans "to contribute to the reasoned defense" of religious freedom and reminded us that "to the extent that this right is menaced...there is a need for a mobilization of consciences on the part of all those citizens who, regardless of party or creed, are concerned for the overall welfare of society;" and

**WHEREAS**, recent legal and regulatory changes in the United States pose new threats to the conscience rights of medical professionals, educators, and faith-based organizations, including restrictions on religious expression in digital environments.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we will remain steadfast in our support for the free exercise of religion as it is described in *Dignitatis Humanae* and enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other documents recognizing religious freedom; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we stand firm in our conviction that the full guarantee of religious liberty cannot be limited to “freedom of worship” as some have claimed, but must include full “freedom of religion,” which necessarily encompasses the public dimension of religion, the freedom from persecution or discrimination on the basis of conscience and belief, and the fact that believers are called to play an active role in building the social order; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call on the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to maintain robust religious and moral exemptions as part of its regulatory rulemakings and enforcement of federal law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we urge all government officials to enact legislation that will protect the right of religious institutions and individuals to be free from government coercion; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will always speak out against any effort to impose religious tests on candidates or nominees for government positions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will remain steadfast in our opposition to future governmental actions or policies that force institutions and individuals to violate their deeply held religious beliefs.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

## **RESOLUTION #21: COMBATTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations defines human trafficking as “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of people through force, fraud, or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit;” and

**WHEREAS**, The United Nations reports that tens of thousands of human trafficking victims are identified in countries throughout the world each year with thousands more still trapped in this modern-day slavery; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly half of victims are trafficked for sexually exploitative purposes—including nearly two-thirds of all minors who are trafficked; and

**WHEREAS**, children are nearly twice as likely to face extreme violence from their captors, with young girls most likely to be subjected to violence; and

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations notes that while trafficking of persons continues to increase, recent trends suggest that identification and prosecution of such crimes has decreased in recent years, with more than four in ten of all identified victims having escaped their captors themselves; and

**WHEREAS**, the teachings of the Catholic Church are clear, with the Catechism declaring as a sin any acts “...leading to the enslavement of human beings, to their being bought, sold, or exchanged like merchandise, in disregard of their personal dignity;” and

**WHEREAS**, the Second Vatican Council also admonishes that slavery, prostitution, and the selling of women and children are “infamies” that “poison human society,” and are of “supreme dishonor to the Creator;” and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis has decried the violence of human trafficking, calling it, “an open wound in the body of Christ,” and in 2015 instituted the International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking to

be commemorated every February 8, the liturgical memorial of St. Josephine Bakhita, who herself was a victim of trafficking and slavery; and

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Council has partnered with brother Knights in Louisiana to support Metanoia Manor, a facility in the Diocese of Baton Rouge managed by the Hospitaler Sisters of Mercy, which ministers to young girls who have been the victims of trafficking while also providing training to other religious orders on how to effectively care for trafficking victims; and

**WHEREAS**, through collaboration with the Arise Foundation, and the generous support and work of brother Knights, the Order has worked to create a culture opposed to modern human slavery and human trafficking, to educate more people on the dangers and signs of it, and to create a culture of support for the protection of women and children, especially through programs in the Philippines, Poland, and Ukraine.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus stands in solidarity with Pope Francis and the entire Church in denouncing the abhorrent practice of human trafficking; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call on all nations of the world to enact and enforce strong laws against human trafficking and other forms of involuntary servitude and to bring the perpetrators of these diabolical practices to justice; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we pray, through the intercession of St. Josephine Bakhita, for an end to all human trafficking, slavery, forced labor, and other forms of involuntary servitude that disregard the dignity of the human person and are “an open wound in the body of Christ.”

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

## **RESOLUTION #22: IN SOLIDARITY WITH PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS**

**WHEREAS**, Christians face severe persecution around the world and have been the target of a genocide by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS); and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Leo XIV has urged government leaders, nongovernmental organizations, and people of goodwill to defend persecuted Christians and all who suffer for their faith; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus provided critical advocacy, documented genocide-level abuses, and mobilized humanitarian relief — efforts that helped prompt U.S. recognition of genocide and directed aid to some of the most vulnerable victims of ISIS, and have supported relief efforts following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Leo XIV has emphasized the indispensable role of Christians in the Middle East and the need to preserve their ancient communities as living witnesses of the Gospel; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus established the Christian Refugee Relief Fund in 2014 to aid persecuted Christians in Iraq, Syria and the surrounding region; and

**WHEREAS**, Christians in Nigeria, India, and other parts of Africa and Asia face increasing violence, abduction, discrimination, and martyrdom, calling for renewed solidarity and prayerful support.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus stands in solidarity with Christians in the Middle East and Ukraine who are suffering from violent persecution and commits to continue providing support while calling on all Christians and people of goodwill to do the same; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we commend those nations providing support to religious minorities seeking to rebuild their lives after persecution by ISIS in Iraq and Syria, and call on all governments and legislative bodies around the world to recognize this genocide against Christians and other religious minorities and to assist these persecuted communities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we commend the Government of the United States for its changes in policy designed to assist these vulnerable communities and for its promise of assistance to them, and call on it to direct the designated funding to these communities with all possible speed; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Colorado Knights of Columbus pledges to continue to aid those who have been victims of crimes against humanity, especially those Christians who have been violently persecuted because of their faith.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

#### **RESOLUTION #23: IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE**

**WHEREAS**, countless innocent civilians in Ukraine continue to suffer the devastating consequences of war, displacement, and violence; and

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Council has consistently called for prayer, humanitarian assistance, and international solidarity with the Ukrainian people while providing substantial direct aid through the Ukraine Solidarity Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus in Ukraine, Poland, and surrounding regions continue to serve heroically by delivering food, clothing, medical supplies, shelter, and spiritual support to families, refugees, and parish communities.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Colorado State Council expresses its unwavering solidarity with the people of Ukraine during this time of immense hardship; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that councils throughout Colorado be strongly encouraged to support the Supreme Council's Ukraine Solidarity Fund, offer prayers for peace, and assist local and international humanitarian efforts responding to this ongoing crisis.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

#### **RESOLUTION #24: MILEAGE AND PER DIEM**

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado State Council is tasked with providing the most effective and efficient means of administering the Colorado State Council budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado State Council seeks ways to defray as much of the cost as possible to those Brother Knights who have provided both leadership and representation for their respective councils, districts and the state at the Colorado State Convention.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Colorado State Council shall provide delegates, in place of mileage and per diem, a credit of up to \$40 for a single person and up to \$80 for a couple toward the Convention activities, i.e. Banquet, luncheons, etc. for the 2027 State Convention, provided the delegates lodge Friday and Saturday nights at the hotel hosting the state convention.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**

**RESOLUTION #25: COLORADO STATE COUNCIL OPERATING BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, per capita assessments will be based on the annual budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Council Budget Committee has reviewed anticipated revenues and expenses for the fraternal year and has recommended the following budget to ensure the effective operation of the Colorado State Council.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the elected State Officers of the State Council be empowered, per the recommendation of the Budget Committee, to disburse the sum of \$394,692 from the General Fund, in the approximate amounts enumerated hereafter, during the Fraternal Year 2026-2027.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

**Committee Recommends: ADOPT**