

# State Deputy's Report

Jason Esteve – State Deputy

Brother Knights,

While I wish that I could deliver this to you in person, distance cannot temper the pride I feel in the way the almost 9000 Brother Knights in Alabama have performed this year. While this pandemic has slowed some of our activities both in our programs and membership, I remain so proud of you all. We have truly embraced the Faith in Action program model and the fruits of our work can be seen in our parishes, our communities and our families.

Our councils throughout the state continue to serve others as well as the members of their councils in ways great and small. From rushing towards destruction and despair with a meal and a kind word after tornadoes devastate communities to small group rosaries for family members who are facing the end of their earthly life, we Knights respond to adversity with faith, hope, and our guiding principle, charity.

And I would be remiss if I did not mention the extraordinary effort councils throughout the state did, rising to the call of the Supreme Knight when asked to lend aid to the Sacred Heart home operated by the Little Sisters of the poor. Not only did we work to fulfill a large portion of their online wishlist, councils rallied within their ranks, raised money and sent thousands of dollars in donations to them. The State Council responded as well, purchasing a month's worth of meat for them with our Charity fund. And all this occurring while our ability to meet and travel was severely limited. It is testament to our unity in the face of adversity.

While we are coming to the close of this Fraternal Year, our job is not done. There are still men who would be Knights if only asked and given a chance. There are still those in need in our communities and parishes. The need may be physical or spiritual but it is still there and regardless of the calendar, we still need to ask those men and meet those needs. Do not think of this meeting as signaling the end of the Fraternal Year, but as a final chance to catch our breath, conduct our business, and end the year as strongly as we started it. Even sequestered, we will make ways to introduce men to our Order and provide all the charitable and spiritual support we can to others.

That being said, as this is one of the last times I have to officially recognize them as the State Deputy, I would like to sincerely thank all of the State Officers for their tireless work over these past two years. Their wise guidance and ability to get things done has made my job infinitely easier. They have taught me so much and I cannot thank them enough. I can only hope that I have helped to leave the State of Alabama better than when I started as State Deputy.

I would also like to take a moment to officially thank my wife Kristen for her love, guidance, and support throughout my time spent working at the State level. I love her greatly and any success I may have had in my years in leadership can be attributed to her much more than to me.

Thank you all, my Brother Knights, for your faith, your support, and your hard work. The State and the Order are all the better because of you.

Vivat Jesus.

Respectfully submitted on April 15, 2020 for inclusion in the minutes of the meeting.

Jason C. Esteve

State Deputy

Alabama Knights of Columbus