



# New Hampshire State Council Knights of Columbus

## Strategic Planning Annual Report

State Warden David F. DeWorken



Brothers in Christ,

**Growth of the Domestic Church** – Stating the obvious, the last thirty months have taken its toll on church attendance. As we attend church services, it is apparent that people have not yet returned to a physical presence at mass, functions, and celebratory services. There has not been the growth that would signify health for the present and future of our parishes. We need to team up with our pastors to determine how we can help. We should implement programs that are outreach to our communities advertising our parishes place in the community. News and advertising campaigns should be coordinated with our pastors to promote deeds completed and upcoming activities that center around Catholic mores.

**Prayer** – We need to foster webcasts, zoom, and in person prayer activities. At present, such activities attract miniscule participation. Starting with the State Council we not only need to advertise prayer events in emails and newsletters but need to take the extra steps of calling District Deputies requesting their participation. We need to require District Deputies to call their Grand Knights to promote their participation and their Councils. Prayer needs to be at the center of our activities not just at the beginning and end. We need not be bashful about asking our brother knights why they are not in attendance.

**Recruiting** – Delta Drives are a great way of seeking out new members but cannot be the main activity for recruitment. Every event, fundraiser and gathering should have a recruitment element to it. If it is a gathering of brother knights a discussion of the status of recruitment should be an agenda item that includes status and future direction. If the activity will be frequented by non-brother knights, then an element should be recruiting. There should be knights whose sole purpose at the activity is to recruit. They should ensure that not only men are approached but also the women present to determine if their brothers, boyfriends, uncles, husbands are members.

**Planning at the District Level** – Too often each council acts alone. District Deputies should foster a sense of cooperation amongst the councils in their district. When developing their plans for the next fraternal year district deputies should look for opportunities to share, cooperate, and consolidate. Working in greater numbers can in some cases increase results exponentially. Where there are councils closely located to each other or multiple councils in the same city, working together may result in greater impact to community. We should strive to put a few programs/events together with this in mind to determine the result and if it is worth pursuing in the future.

**Report** – Reporting is a critical element of any planning activity. Putting together a plan is absolutely useless if no one knows what the results are. I'm not talking about forms on a website. I'm talking about creating a plan and then reviewing it to determine if any part of it was a waste of time. Reporting on all aspects of an activity from conception through execution, to completion is vital. Reporting should be performed each and every month with the objective to determine what can be performed better. State council members should have a number of District Deputies they work with to review plans and results. State council members should review their results at their regularly scheduled e-board meetings.

Your brother in Christ,

*David F. DeWorken*

State Warden