



Knights of Columbus and Kansas Catholic Conference launch collaborative 2020 Nonpartisan Voter Registration Drive

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Knights of Columbus members throughout Kansas are collaborating with the Kansas Catholic Conference (KCC) on a summer 2020 nonpartisan voter registration drive.

“A key element of our mission is faithful citizenship,” said Jamey Roth, State Deputy for the Kansas Knights of Columbus. “One of the best ways Knights put this mission into action all over the country is by promoting voter registration. Now we are bringing this to Kansas.”

The idea of increasing Catholic participation in public policy discussions and the political process is a key element of the Kansas Catholic Conference. As the public policy voice of the Kansas Catholic Bishops, collaboration with the Kansas Knights on the nonpartisan voter registration makes a lot of sense.

“The Catholic voice is very often missing from the discussion of ideas and public policy today,” says Chuck Weber, executive director of the Kansas Catholic Conference. “We do what we can at the Statehouse, but it is the Catholic in the pew who has a much more effective role to play. Letting elected representatives know how they feel about various issues is crucial. Additionally, Catholics can and should play an active part in determining who serves in those capacities. The first step is registering to vote.”

Initial activity surrounding the 2020 Nonpartisan Voter Registration Drive will be most apparent at Catholic parishes through bulletin and pulpit announcements and social media. For parishes and pastors willing and able to provide a signup table, hard copy voter registration forms from the Secretary of State’s Office will be available. Many may wish to take advantage of online voter registration with a link available at www.KansasCatholic.org.

The Kansas Catholic Conference is pleased to have summer intern Vincent Schiffiano, an incoming junior and member of the Knights of Columbus at Benedictine College, working on this project. Schiffiano will be engaging local Knights to offer his support and energy to an effort that is hoped to ultimately increase the number of Catholics and others eligible to vote.

“The upcoming election cycle will be crucial for issues touching on the sanctity of life, religious liberty and dignity of the human person,” says Schiffiano. “I am excited to play a part in helping Catholics engage the process, beginning with this nonpartisan voter registration drive.”

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