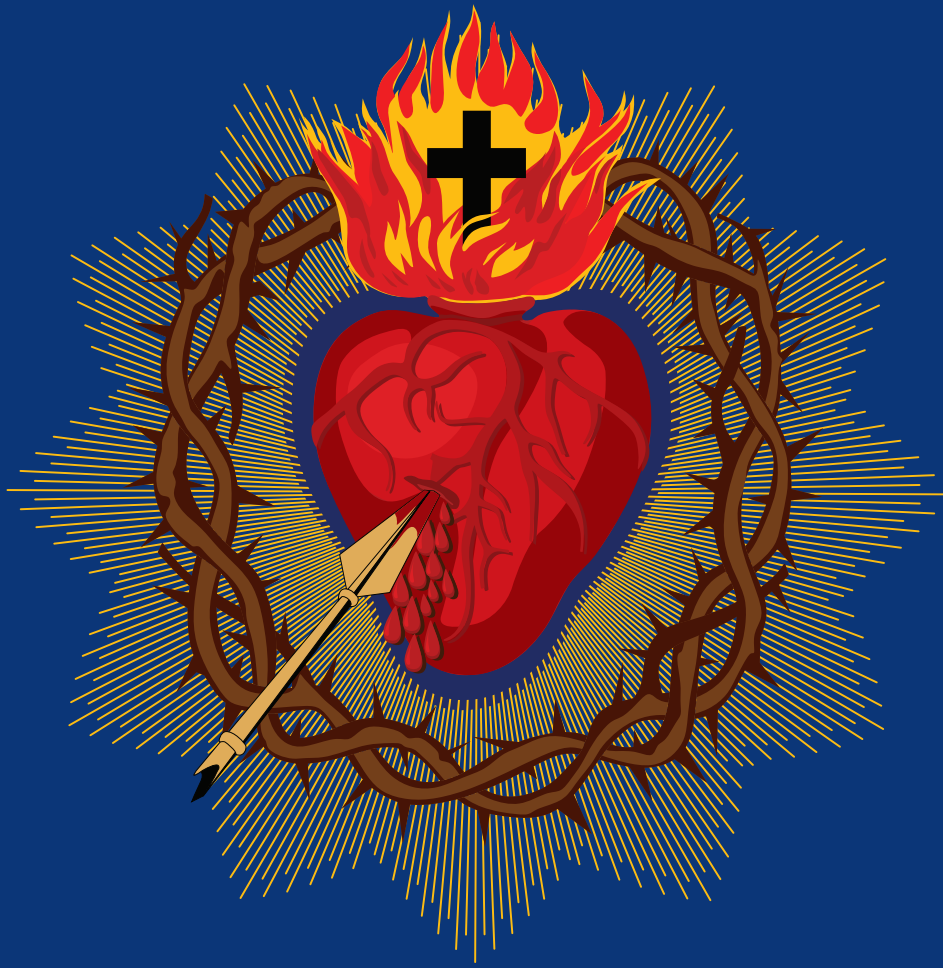




*Holy Trinity*  
*Cor initiative Introduction*





## Holy Trinity Cor

**The mission of Cor is to refocus Catholic men on Jesus Christ and to form and strengthen them in faith and virtue through a brotherhood committed to prayer, formation, and fraternity.**

This Knights of Columbus Cor initiative is named after the Latin word for heart, "cor".

The initiative is inspired by the motto of St. John Henry Newman, "Cor ad Cor Loquitur", which means "Heart Speaks to Heart".

\*The heart of a man is God\*

The goal of each Cor gathering is to provide an opportunity for men to encounter Christ, pray together, and be formed in their faith.

The three key elements of Cor are: Prayer, Formation, Fraternity.

**The word "cor" is also the root of the word "courage".**

Courage is a defining quality of a Knight, enabling them to live for Christ and proclaim the Gospel. The lead on evangelization must be taken by the Knights, and so this is why the Knights are introducing Cor.

We will evangelize by sharing what Christ has done in our lives, and how he has blessed us. It is that simple. *Cor is NOT a Knights recruitment activity.*

**All men of the Parish are invited to Cor gatherings.**

Cor is a simple concept. It will consistently bring men together to refocus on Jesus Christ through shared time of prayer and formation.

We are going small, like the days of Christ and the disciples. The forming of the small, going back to the basics. Prayer, Formation, Friendship

- Cor will not require any funding from Holy Trinity.
- We can meet at the Church or at times a different location.
- Father is invited to participate at his pleasure.
- Cor will not create any additional burdens for the Parish.
- Cor is driven by the fraternal brotherhood, enabling Cor to continually serve as a foundation that answers, "what's next?" for any time or curriculum bound retreat, ministry, or event (after ACTS retreats for example).
- We are not competing with other Men's groups; we will collaborate with them.

**Sample Cor meeting: Prayer Centered Meeting – Rosary (60-90 min. meeting)**

1. Fraternity: Table conversation
2. Formation: View and discuss "The truth of the Eucharist".
3. Prayer: Scriptural Rosary with group and prayer intentions

# Faith-Centered Friendship

*Cor* offers Knights and other Catholic men a way to deepen their relationship with Christ and one another

By Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly

**AMONG THE** highlights of the 141st Supreme Convention last month in Orlando, Florida, was the papal message, in which the greetings of Pope Francis were conveyed in an official letter from the Vatican secretary of state. The message, which will be printed in its entirety in the October issue of *Columbia*, was important for many reasons.

I was especially struck that the message singled out our efforts to accompany Catholic men in their vocations: “His Holiness appreciates initiatives of your Order, such as *Cor*, which enable Catholic men to build a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation and fraternity.”

Why would the Holy Father’s attention be drawn to this initiative? Because, as his message explains, *Cor* is “all the more necessary today amid the distractions of everyday life and a culture frequently indifferent to the reality of faith.” Quite simply, the Knights are taking up *Cor* because we are reading “the signs of the times.” Our world and our Church desperately need men who are willing to embrace their vocation as Christians, husbands and fathers. And there is no better way to make this happen than to bring men together with a focus on prayer, formation and fraternity. The goal of *Cor* is straightforward: to bring men into the abundant life to which Christ has called them.

After a successful pilot program in 21 jurisdictions, we are starting to roll *Cor* out to the entire Order. Last month, we released a Bible study called *Men of the Word*, designed to help Catholic men pray with Scripture. And soon we will be releasing a video series on marriage, family and fatherhood.

These resources are important for *Cor*, but perhaps our most important resource is one another — the men who come together to deepen their faith during *Cor* gatherings. The third pillar of *Cor* is fraternity, or friendship, and this is its ultimate resource: Our brotherhood in Christ is the glue that will hold it all together.

*Cor* gives men a place to come together as brothers for spiritual conversations in an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect. Nothing is more powerful than prayer and faith formation in the context of Christian friendship. When I look back at my own life, I realize that little has been more important to my own spiritual growth than the support and encouragement of trusted friends. These friendships help bring light and truth — God himself. As the spiritual writer Venerable Tomás Morales put it: “Friendship holds the secret of the apostolic potential of a Christian.”

*Cor* will give us the opportunity to grow closer in friendship to one another, but also, crucially, to Christ himself. The papal message noted that the real goal of *Cor* is to build “a strong and vital relationship with our Lord [which] not only leads to personal sanctification, but is also essential for the healthy development of family life.” This friendship with Christ is the pearl of great price (Mt 13:44). It is the secret to authentic happiness.

*Cor* doesn’t replace anything we do.

Instead, it will enhance everything we do, including our most fundamental mission. Father McGivney founded the Order in 1882 to strengthen the faith of Catholic men and their families. *Cor* is deeply connected to this founding vision.

A recent study showed that fewer than 10% of Catholic millennials in the United States actively practice their faith today. This crisis has touched nearly every Catholic family. But it doesn’t have to be this way. *Cor* will help men deepen their faith so they can pass it on more effectively to their children and grandchildren.

We live in a time when men are hungry to live a life of meaning and mission in Jesus Christ, a time when our wives and families desperately need us to embrace our vocation as Christian husbands, fathers and leaders. Our time has come to step boldly into that breach.

*Vivat Jesus!*



*When I look back at my own life, I realize that little has been more important to my own spiritual growth than the support and encouragement of trusted friends.*