

Knights of Columbus
State-to-State Transfer Ceremony

The Transfer Ceremony at which the Silver Rose is passed from one state jurisdiction to another is usually done in conjunction with a Sunday Mass. The State from which the Rose originates is responsible for the actual form of the ceremony. What follows is the text used in the Oregon to California transfer for the last several years.

Before the Eucharistic Liturgy, with the pastor's approval, a short explanation such as the following be read to the assembly.

“At the conclusion of Mass this morning, a brief ceremony will take place in which a votive offering to our Lady in the form of a silver rose, will be passed from the Knights of Columbus in Oregon to their brothers in the State of California. The rose is on a pilgrimage journey from Canada to Our Lady of Guadalupe's shrine in Mexico, and we are honored to have shared in this spiritual pilgrimage highlighting the Virgin Mary's role as patroness of the Americas and of human life in all its stages.”

After the Closing Prayer at the End of Mass, the Honor Guard escorts representatives from California and Oregon to the Sanctuary where the celebrant will meet them.

The Oregon State Deputy, accompanied by the local District Deputy, will carry the Rose. The honor guard will part and salute the rose as it passes.

The Rose will then be passed to the minister, who will place it at the foot of the statue of Our Lady and recite the following prayer:

O Mary, bright dawn of the new world,
With this rose we are reminded of your role as
Mother of the living.

To you we entrust the cause of life in all its stages.

Look down, O Mother, upon those most in need:
The infants not allowed to be born.
The victims of violence, both young and old.
The elderly and sick allowed to die through indifference or misguided mercy.

We pray for them and ask you to grant us through your intercession the grace to accept with honesty and love the Gospel of Life. Give us the joy of celebrating this precious gift in our words and deeds with courage and example to build

together a civilization of truth and love, to the praise and glory of God our father, creator and giver of life.

Hail Mary, full of grace. Etc.

I now bless this rose, our votive offering to you heavenly mother, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

The minister then returns to the center of the sanctuary and hands the rose to the Oregon State Deputy who turns to the assembly. The California representative comes forward.

The Oregon State Deputy says:

On behalf of the Knights of Columbus of the State of Oregon, I entrust this rose honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of America's and of human life in all its stages to the care of our brother knights in the state of California.

The rose is handed to the California representative, who accepts the rose and says:

On behalf of the Knights of California of the State of California, I accept this votive rose and promise to see that it is carried with respect and devotion to the shrine to our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas and of human life in all its stages.

The Color Corps then turns about, and escorts the rose and the representatives from the two states from the Church.

