

State Council Program Awards

Entry Form

THIS REPORTING FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY EACH COUNCIL AND FORWARDED TO THE STATE COUNCIL.
(A separate reporting form should be completed for each program category.)

CATEGORY (MARK ONE): Faith Family Community Life



COUNCIL INFORMATION:

1 Council Number: 4764 Total Council Members: 247
Grand Knight: Tom Tiffany E-Mail: ttiffany4740@icloud.com

PROGRAM INFORMATION (complete all sections):

2 Program Title: DADS FOR LIFE Program Date: 6-18-23

Participation: $\frac{10}{\text{Members}} + \frac{100}{\text{Non Members}} = \frac{110}{\text{Total Participants}}$ $\frac{110}{\text{Total Participants}} \times \frac{0.5}{\text{Hours}} = \frac{55}{\text{Total Volunteer Hours}}$

Program Planning: $\frac{25}{\text{Costs}}$ & $\frac{10}{\text{Time}}$ Members Recruited: 0 Donations: 150
Local Currency

3 Describe program in detail. Use additional paper if necessary. Supplementary material may be submitted along with the nomination. Accompanying materials can include letters, testimonials, news clippings, photographs, pamphlets, etc. Do not submit tapes, videocassettes, DVD's, display materials, films, etc., as they will not be considered in judging the nomination.

3a) In the space provided below, briefly describe the purpose and goals of this program. This section must be completed.

Pilot program conducted at Christ The Redeemer Church, Lake Orion, on Fathers Day 2022 with the following objectives: Increase Mass attendance; support fatherhood and family; collect free-will donations for Oxford Pregnancy Center; and attract new KC members. Program repeated on Fathers Day 2023 at St. Joseph Church, Lake Orion, a larger parish. No-charge digital photos were taken of participating families and emailed to fathers encouraging KC membership.

DO NOT SUBMIT THIS REPORT FORM TO SUPREME COUNCIL

**ENTRY MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE STATE COUNCIL
TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE COMPETITION**

MAIL ORIGINAL TO: State Deputy or State Program Director

COPY TO: Council File

Available in electronic format at www.kofc.org



(continued on reverse)

3b) Whom does this program benefit?

Names, phone numbers, and email addresses of prospective KC candidates obtained for follow-up by membership committee. Each participating family enjoyed having photograph of fathers taken on their special day. Pilot program indicated that parish donations, a metric for church attendance, increased on Fathers Day 2022.

3c) What problem or need did this program resolve?

A greater respect for fathers and their impact on family life is needed to improve the sustainability and vitality of the Catholic Church. If fewer men attend Church, fewer men are available for membership in the Knights of Columbus. The program combines these needs with a need for funds for the Oxford Pregnancy Center.

3d) Why did the council select this program?

The membership recognized that Life programs within the Council needed to be energized. Original pilot program presented to general membership at the April, 2022 meeting involved having a professional photographer who offered services gratis. Pilot program almost scrubbed when photographer backed out at last minute, due to poor response on SignUp Genius. Members stepped up to take quality, casual photos of families. Reinstated pilot program was successful and repeated on a larger scale on Fathers Day 2023.

3e) Describe the success of the program:

The program provided a direct, fun-filled reminder to families, linking fatherhood, Church, and being pro-life, while having a family photo to commemorate Dad. It was noted that the minimal-expense program was especially enjoyed by Latino families. The promotion of the program in the church bulletins and Facebook, together with a catchy banner, generated good will towards the Knights, while obtaining names of prospective candidates. Ongoing program planned again for Fathers Day 2024.

Attest: _____
State Deputy

Signed: **Tom Tiffany**
Grand Knight

10/14/23
Date



DADS FOR LIFE

Faith in Action Life Program
Submitted by
Fr. Thomas R. Carey Council 4764

Tom Tiffany, Grand Knight
Dennis Witmer, Program Director

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INTRODUCTION LETTER

“Dads For Life” began as a pilot program conducted at Christ The Redeemer Church(CTR), Lake Orion, on Fathers Day 2022. In a nutshell, no-charge digital photos were taken of participating families and emailed to fathers encouraging Knights of Columbus membership.

When initially proposed, PGK James T. Pettinato supported the program, provided a photographer could be retained at no expense to Council.

A professional photographer from the parish donated his time, but backed out at the last minute due to poor response on SignUp Genius. This turned out as a blessing as Knights stepped up and took quality, casual photos of families. The results from the pilot program **were encouraging and the program was repeated on Fathers Day 2023 at CTR's larger sister** parish, St. Joseph Catholic Church(SJ), Lake Orion. The 2023 program had a greater parish response; consequently it will be repeated at SJ on Fathers Day 2024.

As will be shown in this application, the Dads For Life program is low-cost and offers other Councils an opportunity to generate numerous potential leads for membership, while recognizing the importance of fatherhood and family.

Tom Tiffany, Grand Knight , Council 4764

Dennis Witmer, Program Director

PROJECT OVERVIEW

WHO: “Dads For Life” reinforces the importance of the father and his family at a church location; free-will donations are collected for the local pregnancy center; and names of potential K of C members are generated.

WHAT: In many cases, a father takes the family picture. For “Dads of Life,” the father is centered in the family photo, stressing HIS family importance.

WHERE: The family pictures are taken outside the Catholic church, in our case near a statue of St. Joseph, the patron saint of fathers, stressing the importance of church community.

WHEN: The “Dads For Life” program takes place appropriately on Fathers Day in June, a typically quiet month for Knights of Columbus activities.

WHY: Council 4764 initiated this project during the post-COVID period, when church attendance was low at our parish.

HOW: Following Masses on Fathers Day, participants sign-up during coffee and donuts and accompanied to the photo location. Their photo and note to consider joining the K of C are emailed to them that afternoon. The leads - name, photo, telephone and email address - are turned over to the Council Membership team for follow-up.

SELECTION PROCESS & PROJECT CHRONOLOGY

Step 1 – April - Obtain approval from Pastor to hold project on Fathers Day (June)

- **Approval for use of gathering space, “Dads For Life “banner, table for sign-up, and coffee & donuts (optional)**

Step 2 – April - Obtain Council approval for project

- Expenses: reusable banner (\$50); coffee & donuts (\$300); matching donations for pregnancy center(\$500 ASAP)

Step 3 - April – Select photographers (2, including backup)

Step 4 – May – Solicit manpower, 3 per Mass; publicize event in bulletins in late May/early June

- 2 men/Mass for sign-ups; 1 man to coordinate sign-ups with photographer

Step 5 – June – **“Smile! This is a fun event!” Take pics.**


- Send digital pics and notes to all participants on Fathers Day

Step 6 – June – Thank workers. Complete Form 10784

ROSTER OF PARTICIPANTS & ROLES FULFILLED

- Project Chairman (1) – Coordinates overall activity. Obtains approval from Pastor. Arranges church bulletin publicity, banner. Sends photos to all participants. Acknowledges workers. Arranges ASAP donation.
- Photographers (2) – Takes digital pics.
- Sign-up workers (2 per Mass) – Maintain legible records on sign-up form. Display K of C literature. Maintain good-will collection bottle.
- Photo Coordinators (2) – Escorts participants to **photographer. Assures pic no. matches participant's** name.

PROGRAM EXECUTION



DADS FOR LIFE

Happy Father's Day 2023

All fathers are invited to have a family picture taken following the 10:00 am and 12 pm (noon) Masses on Father's Day, June 18. A digital picture will be emailed to participants.

Registration on Father's Day will be on a first-come, first-serve basis in Marian Hall.

A free will donation is suggested with proceeds going toward the Oxford Pregnancy Center. Donations will be matched by the Lake Orion Knights of Columbus Council 4764, whose members are parishioners from St. Joseph and Christ the Redeemer Churches.

**Dads for Life
program was
publicized in
bulletins in late
May/early June**

PROGRAM EXECUTION

KOFC WORKERS



REGISTRATION FORM



FATHER'S DAY PHOTOGRAPH

NAME: SESSION (1 or 2):

E-MAIL: PHONE NO:

CALL NO: DSC NO:

PROGRAM EXECUTION

PHOTOGRAPHERS



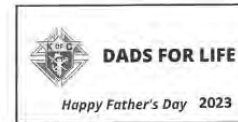
WORKERS

DADS FOR LIFE

June 18, 2023

Help needed after the 10:00 a.m. and noon Masses on Father's Day at St. Joseph's to sign-in registrants and assist photographer(s). If you would like to serve as a photographer, see Dennis Witmer or Tom Tiffany.

NAME	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
AFTER 10:00 A.M. MASS		
Photographer Coordinator:		
1. <i>Tom Tiffany</i>	<i>248-565-5000</i>	<i>TomTiff@stjosephs.com</i>
2. <i>D. H. Hession</i>	<i>908-399-5079</i>	<i>ahession@stjosephs.com</i>
3. <i>Chris Gracswirth</i>		
Sign in Registrants at table:		
1. <i>Charles Foster</i>	<i>748-335-3115</i>	<i>bfoster@stjosephs.com</i>
2. <i>Dale Doran</i>	<i>248-493-2571</i>	<i>daleandbecky@cox.net</i>
3. <i>Dick Brixton</i>		
AFTER NOON MASS		
Photographer Coordinator:		
1. <i>Chris Gracswirth</i>	<i>248-391-2134</i>	<i>C.Gracswirth@gmail.com</i>
2. <i>Greg & Debbie Korth</i>		<i>gskor@q.ushio.com</i>
Sign in registrants at table:		
1. <i>Fred Vora</i>	<i>(248) 878-0896</i>	<i>FredVora22@comcast.com</i>
2. <i>Dick Brixton</i>		<i>dick.brixton@cox.net</i>



Dennis Witmer, Life Chairman, dawitmer@stjosephs.com, Tel: 248-393.0519

MEDIA

MICHIGAN COLUMBIAN
AROUND THE STATE 16 OCT 2022

OXFORD PREGNANCY CENTER
HEART LINE, VOL. 41, ISSUE #2

DADS FOR LIFE

Knights of Fr. Thomas R. Carey Council 4764 held a family photograph session following Father's Day Masses at Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church to promote fatherhood. Financial aid donations were accepted for students attending St. Joseph's Catholic school, and new members were recruited. Free digital pics of fathers and their families were emailed to all participants. The project received extensive publicity in church bulletins, enhancing KC image.



DGK Tom Tiffany and PGK Ron Hines registered participants

DADS FOR LIFE



The Knights of Columbus sponsored family photos after masses at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Lake Orion on Father's Day. A free will donation was accepted. Donations were matched by the Lake Orion Knights of Columbus Council 4764 whose 247 members are parishioners from St. Joseph and Christ the Redeemer churches.



l to r: Greg Korth, Charles Bosler, Earl Vogel



l to r: Dennis Witmer, Gerg Roth, Dick Britton

CORRESPONDENCE TO PARTICIPANTS

Dear xxx,

Thank you for participating in DADS FOR LIFE at Christ the Redeemer. Enjoy the attached photo of you and your family members. We pray that you had a blessed Fathers Day with your family.

As you may know, the Knights of Columbus – a men’s organization of over 1.6 million worldwide – stresses family, fraternity, and charity. Just last week for example, the Michigan Knights donated \$100,000 to Sacred Heart Seminary to assist seminarians. Nationally, the Knights donated \$1,000,000 to the Ukraine relief fund, of which your local council donated \$1,000.

We’re not asking for money (we conduct public fund raisers, such as the tootsie roll drive that raised \$20,000 for children), but do ask that you consider sharing your God-given talents and become a member of your local Knights of Columbus. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, following the 7:00 pm Mass at Christ the Redeemer. Come and check us out. If you have any questions about the Knights, please reply to this email.

May God continue to bless you and your family,

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Fr. Steve Matega and his parents

Re: HAPPY FATHERS DAY

From: Steve M (fathersteve2012@gmail.com)

To: dawitmer@aol.com

Date: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 03:21 PM EDT

Thank you so much. For having it. It was really a great gift to the parish.

God bless you,

Fr. Steve Mateja

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Grand Knight Tom Tiffany presents check to Oxford Pregnancy Center representatives

Re: KC COUNCIL 4764 DONATION

From: Jeanne Tuski (jtuski@oxfordpregnancycenter.org)

To: dawitmer@aol.com


CC: kim@oxfordpregnancycenter.org; mefoxworthy@oxfordpregnancycenter.org; ttiffany4740@icloud.com; kramarczykf@comcast.net; financialsecretary@kofclakeorion.com; alhassinger@comcast.net

Date: Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 08:57 AM EDT

Hello Dennis!

It was such a pleasure meeting with you and Tom yesterday. We at Oxford Pregnancy Center are so grateful for the work that the Knights do to support our mission, which is to protect and preserve the life of the unborn while helping mothers. We could not do it without the support of our generous donors.

I look forward to discussing more in the future about how we can collaborate to reach more people with our mission. Thank you for all that you do and God Bless you and the Knights of Columbus!

 Virus-free. www.avast.com

On Wed, Nov 1, 2023 at 1:57 PM dawitmer@aol.com <dawitmer@aol.com> wrote:

Hello Jeanne,

It's always a pleasure to visit with you and your staff. Grand Knight Tom Tiffany and I are thinking of some new efforts to help your organization. The check included donations we collected at St. Joseph Church during our "Dads For Life" program.

Attached photos for your use.

Your work to assist mothers is deeply appreciated,

Dennis Witmer
Program Director, Council 4764

—
Jeanne Tuski
Executive Director
8 North Washington St.
Oxford, MI 48371
248-969-2177
oxfordpregnancycenter.org

RESULTS

2022 PILOT PROGRAM AT CTR

- Participants : 14 Fathers, 52 Family members
- Donations: \$45
- Recruitment letters: 14

2023 PROGRAM AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

- Participants: 26 Fathers, over 100 Family members
- Donations: \$150
- Recruitment letters: 26
- New member: 1

*BENEFITS: All fathers and the local parish are **strengthened by “Dads For Life.” The program appears most attractive to Latino families. One father, who prominently displays his 2022 family photo at his home, joined the Knights of Columbus in 2023.***

RESULTS - TYPICAL PHOTOS 2022



RESULTS - TYPICAL PHOTOS 2023

