



Knights of FOR MEMBERS Columbus

FOOD FOR FAMILIES

The Knights of Columbus is committed to ending hunger in local communities by asking local councils to participate in the Orderwide Food for Families Program.

Since 2012, the Knights of Columbus has donated over \$8.5 million and 14.7 million pounds of food to local food pantries, community food banks and soup kitchens.

To encourage local Knights of Columbus councils to participate in this worthwhile program, the Supreme Council offers financial rebates to councils, assemblies or Squires circles that donate food or money. For councils or assemblies, the Supreme Council will refund \$100 for every \$500 donated, or for every 1,000 pounds of food that a council contributes to a parish food pantry, community food bank or soup kitchen - up to a maximum of \$500 per council/assembly per fraternal year. Circles will receive a refund from the Supreme Council of \$20 for every \$100 donated, or every 200 pounds of food that is contributed - up to a maximum refund of \$100 per circle per fraternal year. Reported contributions of food and/or monetary donations should be cumulative for the fraternal year and there is no need to send in a refund request every time a contribution is made. However, to be eligible for the rebate, the cumulative total of contributions of food/money needs to reach a minimum of \$500 or 1,000 pounds of food for councils or assemblies, and a minimum of \$100 or 200 pounds of food for circles.

In addition, the Supreme Council recognizes that participating in this program can be time consuming for the local council. Should a council choose to participate in this program, this will fulfill all four of the Family Activity requirements for the Columbian Award.

In order to qualify as fulfilling all four requirements, the council must collect and donate a minimum of 1,000 pounds of food and council members must contribute a minimum of 100 man-hours in the program.

Participating councils/assemblies/circles can qualify to receive an attractive plaque by reporting activity in the program on the **Food for Families Reimbursement Program Form (#10057)** to the Supreme Council.

For additional information on the Food for Families Program, please contact the Supreme Council at 203-752-4402.

Action Steps

- Contact your local parish food pantry, community food bank or soup kitchen to ensure they will be able to receive food donations and inquire if they have any specific needs.
- Obtain permission from the appropriate person (pastor, business owner(s), etc.) to set up the food drive at the church or store and to display posters.
- Ask nearby retail stores for empty boxes so there is a place to store donations.
- If the council is conducting the Food Drive at the parish, have flyers available for distribution or placed in the pews announcing the details of the Food Drive.
 - Ask the pastor for permission to make an announcement before or after Mass about the Food Drive.
 - Be sure to include a written announcement in the parish bulletin.
- For monetary donations, be sure to have a secure receptacle in the collection area for cash and checks.

For additional information on the Food for Families Program, please contact the Supreme Council at (203) 752-4402.



Knights of FOR MEMBERS Columbus

THE HOLY FAMILY PRAYER PROGRAM



The Holy Family Prayer Program began August 4 at the 133rd Supreme Convention in Philadelphia. This program features an image of the Holy Family. Each Knights of Columbus jurisdiction received several Holy Family images, which will be the centerpiece of prayer services conducted in churches and council meeting places throughout the Order for the duration of the

program.

The Holy Family Prayer Program is the 17th Marian Prayer Program sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, beginning with the first program – honoring Mary under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe - in 1979. In preparation for the 1982 Centennial of the Order, the second prayer program was initiated, which highlighted the Holy Family. Since then, the Blessed Mother has been honored by her Knights under her titles of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Our Lady of Czestochowa, Our Lady of Pochaiv, Our Lady of the Assumption, Our Lady of the Rosary and Our Lady of Charity.

These Orderwide programs of Marian Prayer have gathered together more than 16 million people at some 140,000 prayer services conducted at local councils and parishes.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR PROGRAMS

Help us improve the Service Program activities offered by the Supreme Council office by sending reports on your council's successful activities and/or any suggestions you may have on improving our programs. Send this information to Fraternal Mission Dept., Service Program Suggestions, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326 **contact us**. Please include "Service Program Suggestions" in the subject line.



FIND AN
AGENT

Action Steps

Here are some suggestions to help your council in planning your council's participation in the Holy Family Prayer Program.

Once you find out from your jurisdiction's Marian Prayer Program chairman when your council is scheduled to receive the image, consult your chaplain and/or pastor about the service and set a location for the prayer service to be held.

Identify council members and clergy to fulfill the various roles called for in the prayer program.

Representatives of your council should attend the service at the council from whom you will receive the image and bring the image to your council.

Instruct the congregation to say the prayers at a moderate pace to ensure the service is truly reverent.

If possible, the choir leader should review the hymns with the congregation before the service.

Collect prayer books after the service to be sent along with the image to the next council.

No money should be collected nor should any social activity be held in conjunction with the service.

The grand knight should record the council's program in the log book that accompanies the image before sending it on to the next council.

Additional copies of the prayer books and prayer cards used in the program can be ordered from the Supreme Council Fraternal Services Department.



BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

While Strengthening Our Parish

JOURNEY TO THE INN



In an increasingly secular world, many Catholics are faced with the difficulty of sharing the faith. With the bustle of Christmas shopping and the frequent removal of religious imagery from Christmas displays, it seems that communities have forgotten the incredible gift of Christ and the beauty of his birth.

Facing similar concerns when first introducing Christ to the New World, Franciscan missionaries in the 16th century found that simple re-enactments of the story

of Christ's birth could touch the hearts of those they encountered. The Spanish missionaries referred to these ceremonies as Las Posadas — meaning "the inns" or "the shelters" — as they gave emphasis to Mary and Joseph's search for shelter before Our Savior's birth.

"The tradition of the Posada helps us to remember the first Christmas in a way that unites people of faith from throughout the American continent," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "This event will bring together people of many cultures, highlighting the fact that faith and the celebration of Christmas transcend any differences we may have."

 FIND AN AGENT

 FIND A COUNCIL OR ASSEMBLY

These festivities have remained popular throughout Latin America and the southwestern United States, yet children and adults from all cultural backgrounds can use similar celebrations to embrace the true meaning of the Christmas season and share the joy of Christ's birth.

For ideas on how to adapt this tradition to your own community, councils can turn to **Journey to the Inn: An Advent Celebration (#9898)**. Through this booklet, the Order hopes to bring a sharing of various cultural Christmas celebrations to all Knights and their families.

Action Steps

To organize a successful Journey to the Inn program in your parish, your council should:

1. Share the online copy of the program booklet with your pastor and discuss the possibility of hosting the program at your parish. Be sure to talk with him prior to the First Sunday of Advent and explain how the program can be adapted according to the needs of the families who participate.
 2. Choose a date during Advent to host the event. Be sure this date is acceptable to your pastor.
 3. Order copies of the Journey to the Inn booklet once the date is set. Complete your order as soon as possible, to be sure the materials arrive well in advance of your event.
 4. Appoint a committee to work with your chaplain on additional event details, such as selecting prayers, readings and event assignments.
 5. Promote the celebration at all events and Masses at your parish several weeks before Advent begins.
 6. Recruit council members and parishioners to volunteer. Invite young performers to play the different roles and request families to help set up outdoor stations and design costumes.
-

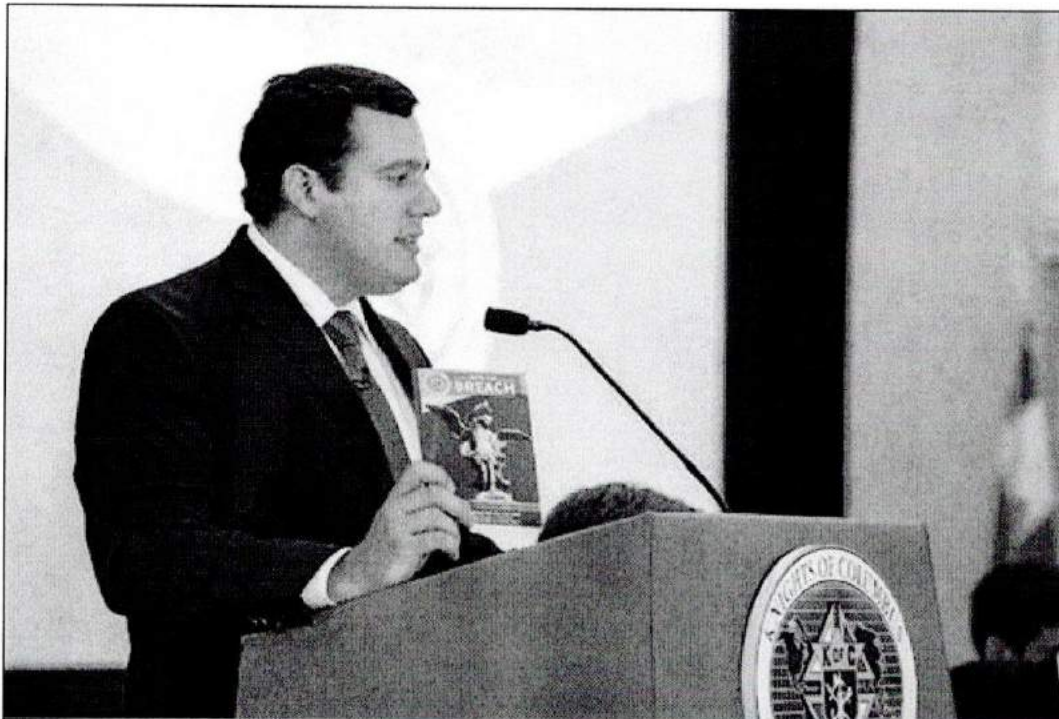
© 2016 Knights of Columbus, All Rights Reserved.





**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
COLLEGE KNIGHTS: LEADERS FOR LIFE.

"INTO THE BREACH"



We live in a time of crisis for religious faith that must be met by men with a heartfelt embrace of masculine virtue. To outline the challenges we face and devise a plan of battle, Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted of Phoenix has written this groundbreaking document, *Into the Breach*. Addressed originally to the men in his diocese, the document is made available here to all Catholics by the Knights of Columbus. The Knights are pleased to partner with Bishop Olmsted in making this document more widely available to all college men and in providing the following study guide. Both are available as PDF downloads.

Into the Breach: An Apostolic Exhortation to Catholic Men
Into the Breach College Study Guide - Item # 10458

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson has challenged all college councils to facilitate a reading and discussion of *Into the Breach* on their campuses this school year. Meet with your chaplain to discuss the best way to implement the *Into the Breach* program. Different approaches will suit different councils. You might

conduct an eight-week program, in which members weekly read a selection from *Into the Breach* and meet to discuss it and work toward spiritual goals. You might do an accelerated version of this, meeting a couple of times a week. Or, you might choose to hold a weekend retreat centered on *Into the Breach*.

However, *Into the Breach* does not end with reading and discussion. Your council must provide opportunities for men on campus to grow in faith. Encourage friendships with other Catholic men so that students can grow together with Christ. Men in brotherhood with other Catholic men pray more, go to Mass and confession more frequently, and read Scripture more often. Men engaged in faith can then best discern the vocation and God's will for their life. Your council must facilitate this Catholic brotherhood.

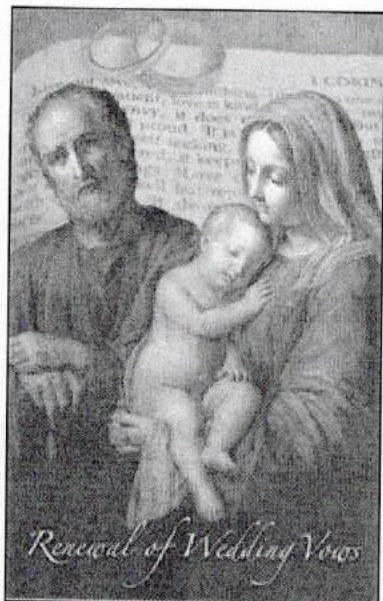
As your council implements this program and conducts other spiritual attempts to fill the breach, be in touch with the College Councils Department with your feedback and ideas. Our office plans to offer additional resources beginning in spring 2017 and your input will help us shape these items. You can reach the College Councils Department via email (college@kofc.org) or phone (203) 752-4671.

© 2016 Knights of Columbus, All Rights Reserved.



BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH
While Strengthening Our Parish

FATHER'S DAY RENEWAL OF WEDDING VOWS



Father's Day is an important time to celebrate the role of fatherhood within the Christian family and is an ideal day for fathers to celebrate and honor their marriage vows. Annually sponsoring this event on the third Sunday of June will serve to make your council visible to the parish community and show your member's support for all fathers and husbands. During these events, Knights and their wives — along with all the married couples of the parish — have an

opportunity to affirm their commitment to their wedding vows. After the event, councils should host a reception where they can congratulate each couple and thank them for their witness.

Working together with your pastor, provide the opportunity for married couples to recall and affirm their wedding vows together with a special blessing during or after the Sunday liturgy. In the 'Support Materials' section we provide two suggested programs you might consider.

Action Steps

When planning the event, be sure to:

.

 FIND AN AGENT

 FIND A COUNCIL OR ASSEMBLY

Ask your pastor's permission to conduct the event, and discuss what time the Masses will be held. If possible, multiple ceremonies should be planned, with a renewal ceremony held at each and every Sunday Mass offered at the parish that weekend.

- Promote the event several weeks before it occurs. Prepare flyers for distribution at Masses and council meetings. Be sure to post the details on council and parish bulletin websites, as well as on social media.
- Discuss with your pastor how your council might offer catechesis to the parish on the Catholic understanding of marriage and the strength of the sacramental bond. If possible, arrange a lecture series to take place several weeks before the renewal ceremony.
- Make a pulpit announcement on the day of event just before Mass begins. Be sure to specifically invite all married couples — not simply Knights of Columbus members and their wives — to participate.
- Plan a reception to follow the event. Some councils may wish to hold a brunch or supply simple light refreshments, while others may wish to supply wedding cake in honor of the ceremony.
- Congratulate each couple and thank them for their witness.



Knights of FOR MEMBERS Columbus

KOFC FAMILY WEEK

Today, as at our founding, the family stands at the core of the Knights of Columbus' beliefs and ideals as a Catholic, family, fraternal service organization. The Knights of Columbus has always strongly supported the family at the local, state and international levels in many ways, especially through our award-winning insurance program. Councils throughout the Order regularly sponsor support groups for new parents, scholarships, babysitting services, fund-raisers for families in need, pro-life activities, family recognition programs, and other family-related projects.

Throughout the year, councils should work to strengthen families by encouraging wholesome home life. Urge families to make time to enjoy each other's company, talk and be active together. Encourage members and their families to choose the Holy Family as their model of interdependence, sharing and respect for each other.

Knights of Columbus Family Week is a special opportunity for our Order to celebrate and emphasize the importance of the family through programs that support the Church and the parish, and unite Knights and Squires with their families and the community at large. These programs should be fun and enjoyable for all, but also meaningful in their message. Our celebration of the family shouldn't be a private matter. Open it to nonmembers, prospects, parishioners, friends, priests, religious and everyone else in your community. Advertise your events and show the world that families are the backbone of communities and our Order.

Tell Us About Your Programs

Help us improve the Service Program activities offered by the Supreme Council office by sending reports on your council's successful activities and/or any suggestions you may have on improving our programs. Send this information to Fraternal

Mission Dept., Service Program Suggestions, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326 or **contact us**. Please include "Service Program Suggestions" in the subject line.

Action Steps

Make sure that your celebration of the family includes a variety of activities that highlight the Order's mission.

- Sponsor a weekend family retreat.
- Conduct an outdoor rosary or Mass before a family picnic.
- Distribute Father McGivney prayer cards (#2617) and The Life and Legacy of Father McGivney booklet (#2045 — available in limited quantities of 50), available in English, French and Spanish, at your events.
- Sponsor a family Mass with children participating as altar servers and family members serving as ushers and lectors.
- Hold a renewal of marriage vows ceremony and give participating couples an "A Covenant Renewed" certificate (#2745 — available for 25 cents each).
- Hold a memorial Mass for deceased members of the council family. This would be an especially fitting memorial since August 14 is the anniversary of the Father McGivney's death.
- Invite local seminarians or novices, especially those who are receiving support from your council under the Refund Support Vocations Program, to your Family Week activities.

Promote Volunteerism and Togetherness

Point out the many benefits of volunteering as a family. Volunteering brings members together for quality time while they make a difference and create positive memories. Helping those who are less fortunate can also add perspective to their lives. When volunteering with young children remember to keep the activity as fun as possible so they'll want to do it again. Also, take into consideration children's physical abilities and attention span. Let the children be involved in deciding what will be done, and discuss afterwards what they have learned.

- Encourage family, council or parish visits to convalescent homes.
- Clean up litter in a park, or help your parish with outdoor maintenance.
-

Assist pregnancy resource centers by collecting baby items and donations.

- Repair, paint or clean the home of a needy person or family, or an elderly person or couple.
- Serve a meal at a hospice or community soup kitchen.
- Collect gifts or necessities to deliver to a senior citizen center or a veterans' facility.
- Hold a drive to collect used children's books for local schools or soup kitchens for distribution to needy children.

Include Fun Activities

- Sponsor a family picnic featuring a cookout, sack race, egg toss, water-balloon toss, three-legged race, obstacle course, face painting and similar activities.
- Hold a banquet to honor "Family of the Month and/or Year" recipients. Present the recipients with Family of the Month certificates (#1843) or Family of the Year certificates (#1843A), both available in English, French and Spanish at a cost of 25 cents each.
- Hold a family night at your council's meeting place to allow families to play games and socialize.
- Host family sports competitions (tug of war, volleyball, horseshoes, bocce, darts, softball, etc.).
- Hold a family social with music, dancing and a sing-a-long for younger children.

Hold Membership and Fraternal Activities

- Start off your Family Week celebrations by bringing new members into the Order through a First Degree exemplification held on the anniversary of Father McGivney's birth on August 12. Hold a recruitment campaign before that date to obtain candidates for the degree and keep your council's membership recruitment efforts going strong during the summer.
- Sponsor an open house at your council's meeting place. Distribute recruitment materials including the youth recruitment flyer (#4496), the "Knights of Columbus Overview" flyer (#4547), the "Faith-based" flyer (#4497), and the "Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit" flyer (#2773).
- Distribute the "Community Service" recruitment flyer (#4553) and the "Families Come First" flyer (#4552) at all Family Week events.
-

Attract prospects to the council by getting their children involved in council activities. If your council has a picnic, sports tournament, camping trip, etc., invite prospects and their children. While the youngsters are having fun, talk to their dads about joining.

- Tell prospects about what the Knights of Columbus means to you and your family. Explain to them what makes you feel good about the Order and what it is about being a Knight that gives you and your family satisfaction.
- Conduct a membership drive aimed specifically at recruiting the family members (fathers, brothers, uncles, cousins, sons, grandfathers) of current members.
- Show the productions *The Life and Legacy of Father McGivney*, *Vocation to Marriage* (included on the *Everyone Has a Vocation. What's Yours?* DVD) and other promotional titles available from the Supreme Council's Department of Fraternal Mission.
- Recognize members and their families for individual achievement and support for council activities.

Spread the Word About Your Events

Let the community know that your council is celebrating Knights of Columbus Family Week by issuing press releases to local media on the activities you have planned. Consult the *Getting Your Message Across — Public Relations and Publicity Guide* (#2235) for detailed information on preparing and distributing press releases.

Be sure to type the press release, preferably double spaced. The release should include all information pertinent to the event (who, what, when, where and why) as well as the name, e-mail, and phone number for a person to contact for additional information. Send releases (hand-delivered and/or e-mailed) to local and diocesan newspapers; your parish bulletin; radio, and television and cable access stations; and other sources that may be interested in your story. Make sure the media receives the releases well in advance of the event so they will have adequate time to promote it. Also, contact local cable-access stations about the possibility of airing the 24-minute production *The Life and Legacy of Father McGivney* and the 11-minute *Experience of a Lifetime* video or other promotional videos during Family Week.

Sample Family Week Proclamation

Use this sample Knights of Columbus Family Week Proclamation as a guide to draft your own proclamation and submit it to your public officials for their signatures, and ask them to issue this proclamation announcing Knights of Columbus Family Week.

© 2016 Knights of Columbus, All Rights Reserved.



BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH
While Strengthening Our Parish



 FIND AN AGENT

 FIND A COUNCIL OR ASSEMBLY

BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

THE FAMILY FULLY ALIVE



by Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

In founding the Knights of Columbus, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney sought to respond to the crisis in family life affecting Catholics in 19th-century America. As a young man he witnessed firsthand the challenges his widowed mother faced with seven children at home. Later, as a priest, he confronted on a daily basis the problems affecting the families of his parish community due to poverty, violence, alcoholism,

immigration, anti-Catholic prejudice and discrimination.

Father McGivney's vision for family life was not only that each family might find financial and material aid. He understood that holiness is the calling of all baptized Christians. And considering that two brothers followed him into the priesthood, we can understand how truly important the sanctuary of the home was to the McGivney family.

His family was a living example of what the second Vatican Council later taught: each man, woman and child is called to holiness through proclaiming the Gospel and communicating the divine gift of love in the activities of their daily lives.

When Christian families respond in this way to the design of the Creator, they become a “domestic church” that, as Pope Paul VI explained, mirrors “the various aspects of the entire Church.” (*Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 71).

The modern family recently has been a topic of particular focus for the Church, with the two-year synod on the family and the post-synodal exhortation by Pope Francis, *Amoris Laetitia* (**The Joy of Love**). During this time, the Knights of Columbus has been involved in supporting families in their Christian vocation through our new *Building the Domestic Church While Strengthening our Parish* initiative. This initiative, which includes The Family Fully Alive program, is designed to help families become more centered on their task of serving God, neighbor and parish.

Since the second Vatican Council, and especially during the pontificate of St. John Paul II, it has become clear that the family is “the way of the Church.” In one sense, this obviously means that the family is the object of the Church’s evangelization efforts.

But the Christian family too has its own indispensable mission. As St. John Paul II wrote in *Familiaris Consortio*, “The family has the mission to guard, reveal and communicate love.” This mission is at the heart of the “community of life and love” that begins with the married couple in the sacrament of matrimony.

To lead us in that mission we are fortunate to have a guidebook — Pope Francis’ exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*— to help us build the Catholic family as a domestic church. In *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis describes the Church as “a family of families.” He reminds us to view the family as the sanctuary of life and love that is at the heart of the domestic church. Our Knights’ families can take special guidance from Pope Francis as he calls us to a new “family apostolate” based upon “joy-filled witness as domestic churches.” Our parish-based councils also have a role in connecting men and their families with the parish.

The **Catechism of the Catholic Church** tells us, “Conjugal love involves a totality, in which all the elements of the person enter. ... It aims at a deeply personal unity, a unity that, beyond union in

one flesh, leads to forming one heart and soul." In other words, sacramental marriage involves not just an agreement between the spouses but a radical transformation of the spouses.

As Pope Benedict XVI wrote in *Deus Caritas Est*, "Marriage based on an exclusive and definitive love becomes the icon of the relationship between God and his people and vice versa. God's way of loving becomes the measure of human love."

In this way, the witness of husband and wife within the daily life of the family can guard, reveal and communicate love as they make their own the gifts of marriage — unity, indissolubility, faithfulness and openness to new life.

A Vatican document on the role and mission of the family states, "The family needs to be rediscovered as the essential agent in the work of evangelization" (*Instrumentum Laboris*, 103). It also points to the necessity to better understand the "missionary dimension of the family as a domestic church" (*Instrumentum Laboris*, 48).

These observations echo those of St. John Paul II, who said, during a meeting with the Latin American bishops in 1979, that "in the future, evangelization will depend largely on the domestic church." (Pope John Paul II, *Address to the Third General Conference of the Latin American Episcopate*).

Clearly, the role of the family in the work of evangelization is not primarily a matter of programs, projects or strategies. These all have their place, but they are secondary. Their place is to be at the service of what is essential — the love between a husband and wife that, sanctified through the love of Christ, radiates to each member of their family.

The family as domestic church is a place of encounter with Christ within the community of a particular Christian family — a place where each member of the family has an important role.

The "mission" of the family in the task of evangelization is to be what it is called to be — that is, to live its daily life as a Christian family. As St. John Paul II said so often, "families, become what you are!"

The family's mission to "guard, reveal and communicate love"— like the parish community — does not exist in an ideal place. The truth and beauty of the family must be communicated to every Christian family, even those that are fragile, wounded or broken. These families too may read the words of St. Paul with

confidence: "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" (Rom 8:35). And they may find in that confidence a path of hope and healing.

During his visit to the Philippines, Pope Francis cited the need for "holy and loving families to protect the beauty and truth of the family in God's plan and to be an example for other families" (Pope Francis, **Address to Families at the Mall of Asia Arena**). Our Building the Domestic Church initiative and *The Family Fully Alive* monthly devotions are concrete ways that Knights of Columbus, in solidarity with Pope Francis, can offer holy and loving families for the Church's mission of evangelization in our time.

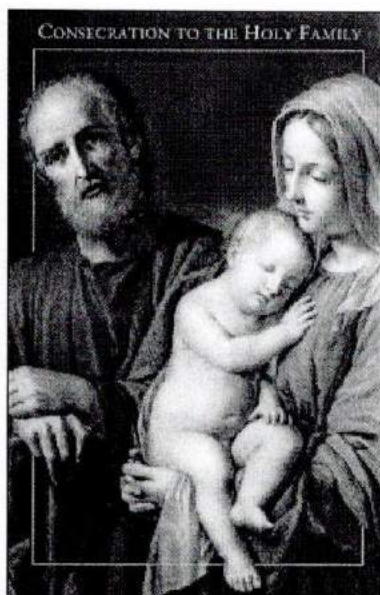
© 2016 Knights of Columbus, All Rights Reserved.



BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

While Strengthening Our Parish

CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY



Families today face many struggles, both through cultural pressure and through the personal struggles that accompany family life. Despite these struggles — and partly as a result of conquering them — families have great capacity for love and joy, a joy that is strengthened through the peace and truth found in Christ.

To help families live out this joy of Christ, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori has composed a new prayer through

which families may come together to consecrate themselves under the protection of the Holy Family.

Every Knights of Columbus council should invite families of their parish to offer this prayer of Consecration to the Holy Family at all Masses on the first Sunday after Christmas. This day is traditionally celebrated as the feast of the Holy Family. It is our hope that this prayer may strengthen our families, revitalize our parishes.

Action Steps

 FIND AN AGENT

 FIND A COUNCIL OR ASSEMBLY

Discuss with your pastor the significance of every family offering this prayer of family consecration, and ask his permission to share the Consecration to the Holy Family prayer cards at Masses on the first Sunday after Christmas, or another appropriate Sunday.

- Speak to pastors and chaplains on the best way to share how the Holy Family serves as an ideal model for the families of your parish. Some chaplains may simply wish to explain this teaching in their homilies or sermons, while others may wish the council to sponsor a guest speaker to come to the parish.
- Order the **Consecration to the Holy Family prayer cards (#10371)** for distribution at your parish. Order enough cards to share with every family in your parish, and distribute them before Mass.
- Recite this prayer together as a parish family on the first Sunday after Christmas, traditionally celebrated as the feast of the Holy Family. Ideally, the celebrant should invite all those present to make the act of consecration together after the closing prayer and just before the final blessing.

© 2016 Knights of Columbus, All Rights Reserved.



Knights of FOR MEMBERS Columbus

5TH SUNDAY ROSARY

To help bring parishioners together in a spiritual activity and promote devotion to Mary, the Knights of Columbus Supreme council is pleased to announce a new church activity, the 5th Sunday Rosary Program. Knights, their families and other parishioners are encouraged to pray the rosary as a corporate body every time a 5th Sunday occurs during a month.

The 5th Sunday Rosary services will be conducted on Jul 31, Oct. 30, Jan 29, and April 30, during the 2016-2017 fraternal year.

Finger rosaries that can be used during the program, are available from the Supreme Council and can be ordered by using the 5th Sunday Rosary Kit (SR-KIT). Participants may also use their own rosaries, and Knights are encouraged to use the rosaries that they received during their First Degree. Conducting this Church Activity every time a 5th Sunday occurs during a month as part of the 2016-2017 fraternal year will allow your council to list each one in the Church Activities section on the **Columbian Award Application (#SP-7)**. In addition, it provides a visible "faith formation" program that will engage current members and their families, and offer parish families who are not yet part of the council an opportunity to experience the faith and fellowship that comes with being a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Action Steps

To organize a successful 5th Sunday Rosary program in your parish, your council should:

1. Order finger rosaries and prayer cards using the Knights of Columbus 5th Sunday Rosary Program Kit (#SR-Kit). You can also use the order form in the forms section of the website, or call the Department of Fraternal Mission at 203-752-4270.

2. Contact your local pastor to obtain permission to conduct a 5th Sunday Rosary service following Mass occurring on a 5th Sunday weekend.
 3. Provide a sign-up sheet in the parish bulletin board for parishioners to sign up to participate in the rosary service. This will allow you to determine the interest level.
 4. Build public interest. Use the sample press release that is on the website as a sample, to present it to the newspapers and the radio stations in your community. When sending the press release use your council letterhead. Deliver or send it, along with clip art logos, to the editors of both.
 5. Report your activities to the Supreme Council with the **5th Sunday Rosary Report Form (#10243)**, and the **Columbian Award Application (#SP-7)**.
-

© 2016 Knights of Columbus, All Rights Reserved.