

Faith



Our goal is to strengthen our men and their families in the faith. When we entered the order, we were reminded to constantly inform ourselves in the Catholic faith. This formation goes beyond mere facts or religious practice to an authentic connection with a loving God and His Son Jesus Christ. Programs in this category are designed to draw us closer to God and the Church in a tangible and meaningful way — whether through helping the future shepherds of the Father's Church, quiet contemplation in a spiritual reflection program, or honoring Mary, Mother of God. These programs should strive to arm us for the spiritual battle that our men and families face daily.

refund support Vocation Program (rsVP)

Keep the faith alive by supporting our seminarians and postulants.

As the strong right arm of the Church, Knights of Columbus are committed to providing moral, financial and spiritual support to our future priests and religious at all stages of their formation. A featured program, rsVP counts for two credits toward the Columbian award.

Through this program, council and parish families will raise funds to support seminarians or religious in formation, in their area. For every \$500 given to an individual, the Supreme Council will refund the council or assembly \$100. The maximum refund a council or assembly can receive is \$400 per individual supported. Though financial support is vitally important, it is not the only aspect of the rsVP program. Councils are also called to provide their “adopted” seminarian or religious with moral support and prayers for their success.



into the breach

Deepen member spirituality and formation to combat crisis of religious faith in our world.

In his apostolic exhortation, *Into the Breach*, Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted outlines the challenges faced by men of faith in the world today. *Into the Breach* is a call to battle for Catholic men which urges them to wholeheartedly embrace masculine virtues in a world at crisis. Councils will institute men's study groups to read the apostolic exhortation *Into the Breach* and use copies of the *Into the Breach Booklet and Study Guide* as a resource. By reading and discussing Bishop Olmsted's inspirational words and the accompanying study guide with like-minded men of faith, councils will prayerfully examine the enormous breach in the battle line that lies before them. In doing so, they will begin to devise a personal plan of spiritual battle.

Marian Prayer Program

spread devotion to Our Lady and pray for our brothers and sisters of faith who are at risk around the world.

The 2018-2019 Marian Prayer Program presents the 18th Marian image sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, this time of Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians. Each Knights of Columbus jurisdiction receives several Marian images, which serve as the centerpieces for prayer services conducted in churches and council meeting places throughout the Order for the duration of the initiative. Since its inception in 1979, the Knights of Columbus' Marian Prayer Program has held more than 166,900 local council and parish prayer services with some 20 million participants. This year, the prayer service is intended to raise awareness of the plight of Christians persecuted for their faith and to stand in prayerful solidarity with them.

building the domestic church kiosk

Help strengthen the domestic church (our families) by providing exceptional religious education materials to all Catholics.

Building the Domestic Church Kiosks (#BDC-K) contain engaging, faith-based literature and are available for councils to distribute to members, parishioners, and the general public. By organizing activities in their parishes, councils will educate and evangelize using the rich resources found in the Catholic Information Service (CIS) *Building the Domestic Church* series of booklets.

Faith

since 1948, Cis has been the major evangelical arm of the Knights of Columbus. Through multiple booklet series and various media formats, Cis makes our Catholic faith accessible and continually provides tools for catechesis and faith formation. For \$150, councils will receive a *Building the Domestic Church Kiosk* (#BDC-K) and the first set of 225 booklets of the most popular Cis resources, aimed at helping Catholics to live out the Church's vision for our families.

rosary Program

Build faithful families and communities by praying the rosary.

This program encourages devotion to Mary, the patroness of our order, and emphasizes the importance of prayer in community and as a family. The rosary Program encourages councils to schedule regular rosary prayer services on any day of the week, at any time of the year, with the guidance of their pastor. Councils should personally invite each family of the parish and offer attending families a copy of the Knights of Columbus Catholic information service's *A Scriptural Rosary for the Family* (#319). encourage families to read this booklet and learn how their faith can be strengthened through a devotion to our Lady, while praying the rosary at home together regularly. Kits with rosary rings, rosary prayer guides, and leader books are available for councils to order by visiting supplies online through the officers online Portal.

spiritual reflection

Create annual opportunities for prayer and reflection as a fraternity.

Many Catholic young people can attest that religious retreats are radically rejuvenating spiritual events that often leave a lasting impact on participants' relationship to their faith. yet, so often, retreats seem only to be open to students and youth. under the guidance of their chaplain, councils can attend a retreat or day of reflection



together or perhaps organize their own event for the men of their parish. Councils and jurisdictions can also hold low-cost retreats of their own. These events might be open only to council members or men of the parish—or may be open to entire families. if councils are unable to organize these events themselves, they could go as a group and attend a retreat in their area to satisfy the requirement. additionally, councils are strongly encouraged to consider visiting The saint John Paul ii national shrine in washington, D.C. as part of this program. Council participation in spiritual reflection is required to qualify for the Columbian award.

Holy Hour

encourage deep personal encounter with god.

The chivalric character of the Knights of Columbus and the Church's long tradition of spiritual combat resonate with men today—especially as threats from the world and the devil are so keenly felt. eucharistic adoration in the form of a regularly scheduled Holy Hour is a simple, direct, and meaningful way to address these needs. it is familiar to many, easy to organize, and something everyone can participate in together regardless of age, vocation, stage of life or membership status. Councils can organize their Holy Hours in a variety of ways and incorporate aspects such as: perpetual adoration, the sacrament of reconciliation, prayer for particular intentions and more. a Knights of Columbus Holy Hour, prepared for the men of the parish, could include a reflection, communal rosary, prayers for intercession by Father McGivney or st. Joseph, and various other aspects as decided by the council.

sacramental Gifts

support families during the most important events in the life of the domestic church: the sacraments.

The sacraments stand as the most significant events in the life of the domestic church. The Knights of Columbus will be there to support and embrace our parish families at these essential moments of encounter with Christ. Councils will play an integral role in these momentous faith events and the lives of our families and parish community through prayer and the presentation of symbolic gifts. as children and adult members become more integrated into the life of the church and their parish, they should know that members of the Knights of Columbus will always be present in a tangible and meaningful way, regardless of who else is there for them.