



FAITH PILLAR

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Faith Pillar Overview



- We have 8 Programs our Councils can pick to help them earn the 4 points required to be earned under this Pillar.
- The Programs to choose from are the RSVP Program (worth 2 points) , Into the Breach , Marion Icon Prayer Program , Building the Domestic Church Kiosk, Rosary Program , Spiritual Reflection Program (a Required Program) , Holy Hour and Spiritual Gifts.
- At the same time this Pillar gives the Council a great opportunity when planned properly to interact with their Parishioner's through the Faith Programs giving them the opportunity to join our Knights of Columbus family.
- It is very important to examine the strength of your Council before you pick which programs you want to do and of course consult with your Parish Priest for his valuable input.
- **Please** never ever start the conversation with a new possible candidate with “ would you like to join the Knights.
- It is also very important to plan not only the programs you will be doing but also to organize your Council to be prepared to approach your Parishioner's during and or after the events so as to be able to talk to them about your work in the Knights of Columbus, the good work you are all doing through your Council and the opportunity and fulfillment it brings to its members working together for their Parish and God.
- Develop a Recruitment Committee to set up all materials, business cards, videos and the date that you will have your Open House to invite the prospective members and their families too.
- Plan your strategy on approaching prospects keeping in mind that you are not just signing up a new Knight but a whole family, yes , that is right a **whole family** into our Knights of Columbus world.
- Plan an Open House, showing a movie with a short talk on the past and future events of your Council and the world also.
- Then serve some tasty food, drinks and have the form 100 available with the upcoming First Degree dates in your area that you know are available for your prospect to attend.

Faith Pillar Overview continued...



- Above all please make sure your families are there to receive the prospective members and their families, so as to talk about their involvement in the Knights and how it has enriched their family's lives.
- A picture album of events you have done in the past at hand if possible to show , is a great way of showing results of all your work in your Church and Community.
- Words are great but pictures have a great effect in having your prospects and their families see what the Knights do.
- Everyone should of course be wearing their K of C Badges, T shirts etc. as well as letting the evening progress on a friendly pace with the a goal of getting the Form 100 filled out as the evening goes on, but do not press it make it a great opportunity to get a chance to join.
- Another important item, don't forget to invite your Priest, his presence has a great effect on parishioners especially if he is a Knight
- Take pictures of the night, send them to the people attending by e mail or give them copies.
- Follow up with those who are undecided as not everyone decides right away and a friendly follow ups are good.
- For those who have already signed the form 100 who you are taking to the First Degree, make sure they have a Knight to buddy up with for the First Degree and the year to come, so they can feel a real part of the Council, this is a very important part of retention.
- At their first meetings make sure they are introduced to all attending, make them feel wanted and needed.
- Please make every effort to follow the previous mentioned steps and you will do your Faith Pillar programs as well as increase the number of Knights in your Knights of Columbus family.

Now a quick look at all programs in the Faith Section

RSVP (Featured Program)

This Program when completed gives the Council 2 points towards the Columbian Award.

- Supporting seminarians and postulates is the target of the RSVP.
- Provides moral, financial and spiritual support for our future Priests.
- A donation of \$500.00 to a Seminarian gets a \$100.00 refund to the Council for their donation from Supreme.
- Allowed to support 4 Seminarians a year at \$500.00 each with the same refund of \$100.00 per each donation.
- Also Council should take an adoptive approach to supporting the Seminarian with moral support and prayers for them.

Action Steps:

- Set up Annual RSVP goal and program.
- Select a RSVP Chairman and a committee to assist him.
- Obtain names of Seminarians that need the Councils support by asking the Seminary or the Councils Chaplin.
- If possible meet your Seminarian, have him attend your Council meeting, meet the members and possibly join the K of C if he is not a member at no cost to him.
- Conduct projects so as to meet your goal for the year thru various events as required, set dates in advance for events.
- A Mass with a special collection if agreeable with your Priest.
- Breakfast or Dinner fund raiser with the Seminarian in attendance.
- Send in the required forms into Supreme once you have completed the RSVP & always keep a copy of what you to Supreme.

Note:

- **For further ideas for the RSVP please consult your Faith in Action booklet.**



Into the Breach



- This is a call to deepen men’s spirituality and formation to combat the crisis that come in our life and the world.
- Program designed to increase Council members and other men in your Parish spiritually & contribution to the world.
- Set up a Chairman & a committee to assist in running this program.
- Discuss the program with your Priest for guidance & dates the program will run.
- Place an order for a set amount of books called “Into the Breach” written by Bishop Thomas J Olmstead and study guide through Supreme Department of Fraternal Mission.
- Promote the Program in your Council and Parish by Pulpit announcements Bulletin etc., word of mouth and Web page if you’re Church has one.
- Train a leader to teach the Program, may not be the Chairman.
- Work with your Priest to form a men’s group to read Into the Breach and work with the Study Guide.
- Submit form as required to Supreme Council Department of Fraternal Missions to get the credit and keep a copy of what you sent.

Note:

- Further ideas on this Program are to be found in your Faith in Action booklet under “Into the Breach”.

Marian Icon Prayer

- Purpose is to spread devotion to our Lady through the Marian Icon Prayer Program in your Parish.
- Elect a Chairman to run this Program for your Council and a committee to assist him.
- Plan with your Priest to gather the Parish around the Icon at Prayer Services, a special Mass and have a special Council meeting to do the Program & set date the Icon will be available at your Church.
- Order the resources required thru Supreme Department of Fraternal Services.
- Once you have completed the program please pass on to the next Council with any extra material you do not need.
- Submit your forms to Supreme to receive a credit for this Program.

Note:

- **See the Marian Icon Prayer Program section in your Faith in Action booklet for more information on this program.**



Building the Domestic Church Kiosk



- The purpose of this program is to help build the Church Family by providing religious education material to all Catholics in your Parish.
- Pick a Chairman and a committee to work with your Parish Priest on this program so as to organize a strategy on how to proceed with this program & the date it is to be done.
- Organize activities in your Parish to educate and evangelise with information from booklets Building the Domestic Church from Supreme and Catholic Information Services (CIS) which supplies a series of books as well.
- CSI since 1948 has been the Evangelical Arm of the K of C.
- From CIS for \$150.00 you can obtain 225 books which are the 1st set of books aimed at helping Catholics live out the Church's vision for our families & check other materials they have to offer.

Note:

- **Please refer to the Faith in Action book under Building the Domestic Church Kiosk Program for more information.**

Rosary

- Purpose is to Build Faithful Families and Communities by Praying the Rosary.
- Program is designed to encourage devotion to the Rosary in Families and Parish life by scheduling regular Rosary prayer services in your Parish & possibly asking other Rosary groups in your Parish join you.
- The program encourages devotion to Mary and emphasizes the importance of praying the Rosary for the Community and Family.
- Councils appoint a Chairman and a committee who meets with your Parish Priest to plan the Rosary prayer events and dates.
- Council orders kits from Supreme to hand out as required.
- Advertisement of the Rosary dates are published in the Parish bulletin with posters, Pulpit announcements and word of mouth as allowed by the Priest.
- Offer to families and others as required a book Spiritual Rosary for Families to encourage the strengthening of Faith thru praying of the Rosary.
- Once completed the Chairman should fill out the forms and send it to Supreme to obtain a credit for the Program and keep a copy of all you have sent.

Note:

- **Please refer to the Rosary Program section in your Faith in Action booklet for more information.**



Spiritual Reflection



- Purpose of the Program is to create annual opportunities for Prayer & Reflection through Retreats or a Day of Reflection events in your Parish for men of your Council and Parish.
- Appoint a Chairman & a committee to run this program in conjunction with your Parish Priest.
- Build public interest in this event thru Posters, Parish Bulletin, Pulpit announcements, Web site and word of mouth.
- Plan to hand out K of C prospect cards and have a table set up with K of C informational brochures and someone prepared to talk about the Order if someone wants some questions answered.
- Encourage on the day of the event all Knights to be in attendance, to wear name badges and Knights apparel so everyone knows that they are there and approachable but this should be done on a low key so as not to disturb the event itself.
- Take photos of the event to have memories of the event, to publish and send to the Columbian magazine for recognition.
- Chairman to fill out paperwork and send to Supreme for the credit and keep copies for you records.

Note:

- **This Program must be done and can not be replaced by any other Program in order to qualify for the Columbian Award.**
- **Please refer to your Faith in Action book under the Spiritual Reflection Program for more information.**

Holy Hour

- The purpose of this program is to encourage your Parishioners to have a Personal Encounter with God.
- Appoint a Chairman to run the program and a committee to meet with your Parish Priest to discuss and plan these events & dates to have them.
- The program could include Reflection, Rosary and Prayers for the Intercession of Venerable Michael J. McGivney or St. Joseph or any Saint that you and your Priest may pick.
- The Holy Hour is a simple and direct way to enhance Church direction & to rebuke the threats that are always coming at us as Catholics.
- Build Parish interest thru Posters, Pulpit announcements, the Parish Bulletin, Parish Web Site and of course the word of mouth as talking to your friends about the event spreads the word quickly as well as in your Council and the Parish.
- Encourage the Holy Hour be done in the Parish a min of four times a year and book it into the Parish calendar with your Priest permission.
- Chairman to fill out the forms and submit to Supreme to obtain the credit and keep copies of all documents you send.

Note:

- **Please refer to the Faith in Action book under the Holy Hour Program for more information.**



Sacramental Gifts



- The purpose of this program is to support families during important events in the life of the Domestic Church and the Sacraments.
- Councils are to play an integral role in these momentous faith events and lives of the families through prayer and presentation of symbolic gifts.
- Sacraments are significant events in the life of the Domestic Church.
- K of C are there to support and embrace our parish families in moments of the encounter with Christ.
- As children and adult members of the Parish become integrated into the life of the church they should know that the K of C will always be there in a tangible and meaningful way.
- Chairman and a committee should be chosen to work with the Parish Priest on the Program.
- Once the plan is accepted by your Priest find out how many will be receiving the Sacraments in the future as best you can.
- Order Sacramental Gift Kits from Supreme through Supplies on Line.
- Supreme has created gifts for Baptism, First Communion, RCIA, and Marriage that are available.
- Other gifts can be given once the Council and Priest agree.
- Pre advise those to receive gifts that they are being given to when & why in advance not the day of.
- Chairman to fill out the forms and submit to Supreme to obtain the credit and keep copies of all documents you send.

Note:

- **Please refer to the Faith in Action book under the Sacramental Gifts for more information.**

Things to remember...

- RSVP Program is worth 2 Points when completed.
- Spiritual Reflection Program is a mandatory program and must be completed in order with others to win the Columbian Award.
- If you intend to use another program you have done in the past to replace a present program in the Faith and Action book you should check if it will be acceptable to do so as not to have any surprises at the end of the fraternal year, which can be addressed thru the Chairman of the Program or ask me directly and I will make every effort to find out.
- Questions? Feel free to contact me at the below:
 - Faith Director, Robert C. Bentley PGK , FDD & PFN
 - 416-200-1001 or faithdirectorontario@gmail.com
- Again the Faith Director and the Chairman of each Program are available to consult and help you obtain success, you are never alone in doing any of the Programs.

God Bless and have a very Faith filled Christmas and a Happy New Year.





Thank You