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Illinois's Faith in Action

Issue TWO



Chosen To go And Bear Fruit That Will Remain

A Monthly Insight into the Current Illinois Programming

Fruit For Thought



current topics >>>

Program Spotlight: Family Week

"Families are the first place in which we are formed as persons and, at the same time, the 'bricks' for the building up of society."

Pope Francis

Family week is a special opportunity for us to celebrate and emphasize the importance of the family through programs that support the Church and the parish. Programs should be fun and enjoyable for all, but also meaningful in their message and purpose. Open it to nonmembers, prospects, parishioners, friends, priests, religious and everyone else in the community.

For more ideas visit kofc.org/familyweek



Words From the Director

Time to get stoked and get your programming on fire!

"When we are interested, we do what is convenient. When we are committed, we do whatever it takes." Nithya Shanti

The above quote brings up a good question. Are you interested or are you committed? The same applies to the council when we look at programming. We are a couple months into the current fraternal year and it's a good idea to take five and check the pulse.

Is your council alive actively engaged in bringing family valued programming to your parish and community or is your council membership sitting there at a meeting staring at the grand knight watching things happen getting bored? If it's the latter, then it's time to rise and lead! As a leader in your council, you are charged with motivating your membership to engage in activities that will move the council in the direction of achieving its goals and meeting its mission. Pick one or two programs and put a member in charge and let them run with it. Make sure you

give them the tools and support needed to carryout a successful program. Simple and fun programs are more successful and than complicated ones. If you need ideas, we have many listed in this programming newsletter you can implement over the next several months. Remember, as you finish your programs, to record the number of man hours and \$\$\$ so you can record it on the 1728 form in January. Applicable officers and directors should be working on completing the Safe environment training. Our youth depend on us to provide programs that are kid friendly and safe. Don't jepordize your awards by not being compliant.

Tell your story and make your council come alive. Send us your action pics. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. We use these tools to communicate and connect. Till next time, keep your Faith in Action.

Simple and fun programs are more successful than complicated ones

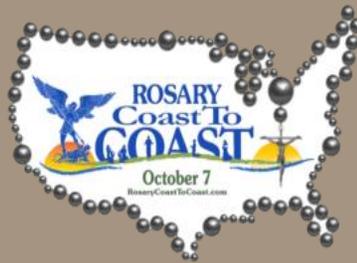
Spiritual Growth >>>

Building the Domestic Church...

. In 2018 we once again invite all Catholics to join together to pray the 54 day Novena for Our Nation from the August 15 Feast of the Assumption through the October 7 Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. We ask all then to join together on October 7 in praying the Rosary Coast to Coast.

Rosary Around Illinois

Would involve as many churches and Catholics around the State of Illinois to participate in reciting the Rosary at defined locations on **Sunday October 7th 2018 at 3:00 PM**. The intent would be to literally encircle the State of Illinois with Catholics reciting the Rosary with the intent of praying for local and state politicians in the upcoming November election.



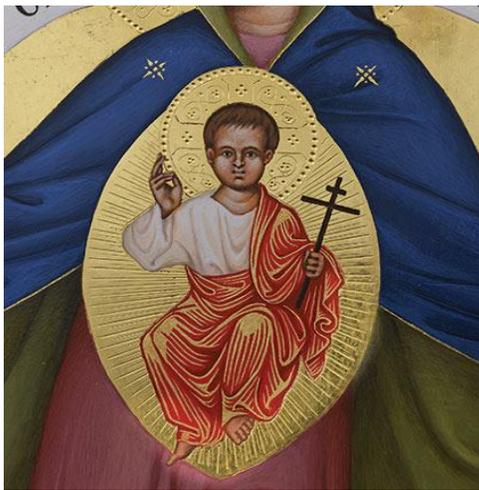
Building the Domestic Church Kiosk

Did you know that the “Building the Domestic Church” Kiosk contains several books directed toward through prayer and family spiritual development? See the attached flyer for details on how your council can help present these resources to your fellow parishioners!

Remember to submit your Knight and Family of the Month. Form can be found at www.illinoisknights.org

Keep Christ in Christmas

The new Faith in Action Program now has gathered several different KofC programs under the heading of “Keep Christ in Christmas”. The programs include: Journey to the Inn, Light Up for Christ, Creche or Advent Wreath Blessing and the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. Councils should have a KCIC Poster Contest Chairman in place very soon, and poster contest kits and other resources should be ordered through Supplies Online, the supply ordering portal at Officers Online at the Supreme website.



Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians

New ICON

Spread devotion to Our Lady and pray for our brothers and sisters of faith who are at risk around the world through the Marian Prayer Program.

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. Illinois jurisdiction will receive 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. 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

wisdom >>>

Words From our Family Director...Rich

Brothers, please keep in mind the major importance of your councils planning and implementation of successful Family Programs which are relevant to the families of your parish! As you know, our modern secular culture provides many negative pressures which tend to erode the quality of family relationships, thereby tending to pull families apart which also weakens our neighborhoods and communities. Your council will be well on its way to improving family life by reviewing and implementing many of the Family programs presented in the new “Faith in Action Guidebook”. Work closely with your parish priest for his guidance in tailoring the programs to your parish. Although every council should receive a printed copy of the new “Faith in Action Guidebook” sometime in the future, no definitive date is yet available, therefore council officers are asked to study and plan programs using the online version of the guidebook at: <https://www.kofc.org/un/en/forms/programs/10590%20Faith%20in%20Action%20Guidebook.pdf>

STATE KNIGHT OF THE MONTH
RYAN SCHMIDT

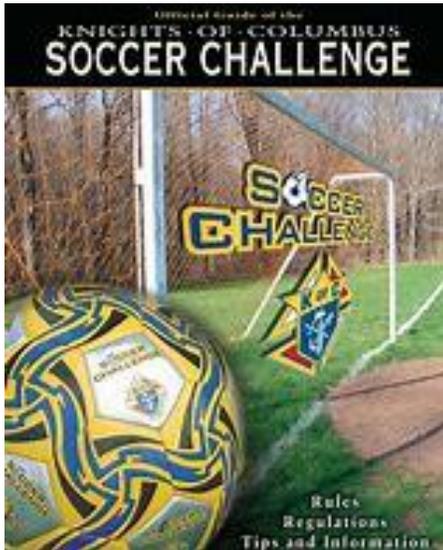
Msgr. James P. Burke council 2964

Ryan, has exemplified what a young Knight can achieve through leadership and dedication. Many awards have been earned under his tenure as GK along with membership growth and program participation.

Fantastic!

Soccer ramping up— Are you ready for the Challenge?

Tom West, our Soccer Challenge Chair, is geared up for another super charged year. In addition to the reminders below, Tom has created a checklist to ensure your soccer challenge event will be simple and fun!! Remember to complete the forms(4578, 4567) afterwards. See attached.



1. Order the Soccer Challenge Kit ([#SC-KIT](#)) through Supplies Online.
2. Set a date, location and time for the Soccer Challenge.
3. Contact schools and youth centers to explain and promote the program.
4. Prior to the Soccer Challenge, create and distribute a tailored release to local media.
5. Build public interest for the event! Promote the Soccer Challenge in your parish and larger community through a variety of efforts:
6. Coordinate with the district and state leadership regarding date, time, and location of the next level of competition. On the day of the event, provide this information to the council-level winners.
7. Preregistration is recommended, but sometimes difficult to execute.
8. Hold the Soccer Challenge! Review the Soccer Challenge Playbook ([#4576](#)) for guidelines, volunteer requirements, and other information.
9. On the day of the event, wear Knights of Columbus-branded apparel!
10. Enlist a fellow Knight or community member to photograph the event.
11. Following the Soccer Challenge, update the community on the success of your program to local media.
12. Send Soccer score sheets to regional chair

ask the director >>>

Q: Why did Supreme raise the coat minimum for Coats for Kids?

A: Feature program requiring more action

.Supreme has made this program a feature; therefore, the minimum number of coats have increased. Councils will get two credits instead of one. It is expected that councils make the extra effort to raise the necessary funds to purchase the coats which will allow them to have enough to have significant impact within their community. This is a Faith in Action program. It is not considered an Illinois charities program; therefore, the State council will not provide funds for councils and hold monies in a pass through account.



"Through it we honor not only Our Lady of Guadalupe and express the unity of the Order, but we also reaffirm the Order's dedication to the sanctity of human life. It is to the Blessed Mother that we turn in prayer as we work to end the Culture of Death that grips our society. As we think in terms of 'One Life, One Rose,' it is most appropriate that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses."

Carl Anderson

Coming soon to your Diocese, contact your Chapter for more information.

Spelling Bee/Essay contest...

July/August: Councils, assemblies order Knights of Columbus Essay Contest Kits from the Supreme Council Office.

August/September: Councils, assemblies contact schools to secure cooperation. At this time the date, place and means of recognizing winners should be determined.

September: Students write essays. Essays should be submitted to judges by September 30. **Spelling Bee**

October-December, order form online, www.illinoisknights.org. They are not automatically sent out. Start talking to schools as soon as they open this Fall.....ESP after you receive kits

Safe Environment Reminders

Safe environment training is required and it will impact award eligibility.

All youth programs must have at least one trained leader present.

Need help with login?

Contact Armatus support directly:

Phone: 817.801.7773, 800.743.6354

Email: support@PraesidiumInc.com

finalthoughts...

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pews.

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.

Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong

People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church

POPE FRANCIS REVEALS TOP 10 SECRETS TO HAPPINESS

By Carol Glatz - Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Slowing down, being generous and fighting for peace are part of Pope Francis' secret recipe for happiness. In an interview published in part in the Argentine weekly "Viva" July 27, the pope listed his Top 10 tips for bringing greater joy to one's life:

1. "Live and let live." Everyone should be guided by this principle, he said, which has a similar expression in Rome with the saying, "Move forward and let others do the same." Pope Francis greets the crowd as he arrives to lead a general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican last month. (CNS/Paul Haring)

2. "Be giving of yourself to others." People need to be open and generous toward others, he said, because "if you withdraw into yourself, you run the risk of becoming egocentric. And stagnant water becomes putrid."

3. "Proceed calmly" in life. The pope, who used to teach high school literature, used an image from an Argentine novel by Ricardo Güiraldes, in which the protagonist -- gaucho Don Segundo Sombra -- looks back on how he lived his life.

"He says that in his youth he was a stream full of rocks that he carried with him; as an adult, a rushing river; and in old age, he was still moving, but slowly, like a pool" of water, the pope said. He said he likes this latter image of a pool of water -- to have "the ability to move with kindness and humility, a calmness in life."

4. "A healthy sense of leisure." The pleasures of art, literature and playing together with children have been lost, he said.

"Consumerism has brought us anxiety" and stress, causing people to lose a "healthy culture of leisure." Their time is "swallowed up" so people can't share it with anyone.

Even though many parents work long hours, they must set aside time to play with their children; work schedules make it "complicated, but you must do it," he said.

Families must also turn off the TV when they sit down to eat because, even though television is useful for keeping up with the news, having it on during mealtime "doesn't let you communicate" with each other, the pope said.

5. Sundays should be holidays. Workers should have Sundays off because "Sunday is for family," he said.

6. Find innovative ways to create dignified jobs for young people. "We need to be creative with young people. If they have no opportunities they will get into drugs" and be more vulnerable to suicide, he said.

"It's not enough to give them food," he said. "Dignity is given to you when you can bring food home" from one's own labor.

7. Respect and take care of nature. Environmental degradation "is one of the biggest challenges we have," he said. "I think a question that we're not asking ourselves is: 'Isn't humanity committing suicide with this indiscriminate and tyrannical use of nature?'"

8. Stop being negative. "Needing to talk badly about others indicates low self-esteem. That means, 'I feel so low that instead of picking myself up I have to cut others down,'" the pope said. "Letting go of negative things quickly is healthy."

9. Don't proselytize; respect others' beliefs. "We can inspire others through witness so that one grows together in communicating. But the worst thing of all is religious proselytism, which paralyzes: 'I am talking with you in order to persuade you,' No. Each person dialogues, starting with his and her own identity. The church grows by attraction, not proselytizing," the pope said.

10. Work for peace. "We are living in a time of many wars," he said, Peace is proactive.

Your Program Directors

General Program director—Lloyd Reinkensmeier 618.214.7094
tripljr@charter.net

Faith Director—Bill Doody
708-361-8885-- kc14057@yahoo.com

Family Director—Rich Koerkenmeier
618-974-1910-- rkoerk@yahoo.com

Community Director—Mark Halper
773-771-1810-- mnmhalper@sbcglobal.net

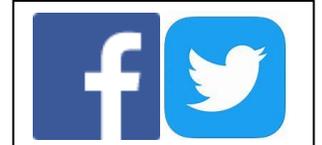
Life Director—Gerry Mattix-Wand
618-377-3414-- gmwand@eawr.org

Action >>>

Key Reminders

- ✓ **Form 365 Due Aug. 1st**
- ✓ **Audit Due Aug. 15th**
- ✓ **Safe Environment Training Due**
- ✓ **Silver Rose prayer program**
- ✓ **Order Soccer Challenge Kits/set dates for event**
- ✓ **Order Essay contest material**
- ✓ **Order Coats for Kids**
- ✓ **October rosary program**
- ✓ **Begin plans for Christ in Christmas programs**
- ✓ **RSVP Program**
- ✓ **New Marian ICON prayer program coming soon**
- ✓ **Keep track of service hours and \$\$ for council activities**
- ✓ **Look for Roundtable opportunities**

www.Illinoisknights.org



Illinois State Council

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