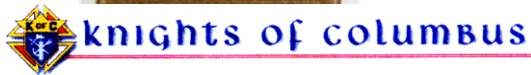




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NOVEMBER 2012

State Newsletter Recipients
Knights of Columbus

Worthy Officers and Members:

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 through our award-winning insurance program. 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. Every week of the year 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. These programs should be fun and enjoyable for all, but also meaningful in their message. Show the world that families are the backbone of communities and our Order.

Take a look at what's happening to our family life. Do we communicate? Do we share? Do we take time to get involved with each other? Are there opportunities for improvement? What is God's plan for us? Today's society makes it hard to be a family. Television, and several other electronic devices, takes up a lot of our time together. The hustle and bustle of business, rushed meals, school, work, committee meetings, sports and shopping are cramming our days and weeks. The family is under heavy attack today. Its primary source of strength must be found in a growing religious and parish life. But it also can be helped substantially by an organization such as ours.

Help prevent the death of the family by administering preventive medicine.

Conduct those programs and activities which aid in rebuilding the family spirit from within, making it vital and strong enough to resist society's ills. Work to strengthen family life. Nourish wholesome home life through the sponsorship of activities involving entire families on a scheduled and continuing basis. Encourage communications and routines which involve family members within their own homes as well as bringing families together in social and recreational events in the community. Stimulate togetherness within family units. There are many ways in which families can enjoy time together in a scheduled, organized way, using the Family Life section of the SURGE WITH SERVICE program booklet.

In November especially we should concentrate on FAMILY projects with the celebration of the veterans, deceased and THANKSGIVING. Include in the celebrations the widows and family of deceased members and veterans. Include in the Thanksgiving celebrations those whose families are broken or not existent such as the homeless, those in nursing homes and in the hospitals.

Family recognition is very important! There are two programs that allow each council in every district to recognize the family unit. They are:

FAMILY OF THE MONTH. I am confident that a family, either in your council or in your parish, should be recognized for the work they do. The family of the month form can be found on our web site under 'forms'. The form should be submitted to Supreme, before the 15th of each month, to qualify for a drawing of 100 statues given to selected families, to State Deputy and to me.

FAMILY OF THE YEAR. Normally, from the Family of the Month you can select a family of the year. Nominations for the Family of the Year need to be sent to me prior to **March 1, 2013** for proper judging and selection of the family to be chosen at the State level. The form that must be completed for Family of the Year can be found on our web site under 'forms' .

Remember if I can be of any assistance, just ask. HAVE YOU SUBMITTED YOUR FAMILY OF THE MONTH?

HAPPY THANKSGIVING! REMEMBER OUR VETERANS AND DECEASED MEMBERS!

PA Ouellette

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