

Worthy Chapter Presidents, District Deputies, Grand Knights and Brothers,

Columbian Year 2018-2019 will be a year of change for service programs in the Knights of Columbus order wide. The Surge with Service program model is being replaced and simplified. The new program model will be titled Faith in Action. Faith in Action adds new programs that emphasize the spiritual nature of our order and charity in our communities. As an order we need to refresh our image in our parishes, we need to be more than the guys that do the pancake breakfast!

The Supreme Council is requiring that councils establish some programs within each council and reorganizing existing programs to emphasize spiritual and charitable aspects of our order. Most of the existing programs will be placed in one of 4 activity categories Faith, Family, Community and Culture of Life. Others will be converted to initiatives grouped under a single program. Each of program activity categories will focus on different parts of our lives and faith. Faith Activities promote the spiritual nature of our faith and order. Family Activities promote family as a place where our faith begins. Community Activities promote corporal works of mercy in our community. Culture of Life activities promotes life beginning with conception and ending in natural death.

The Supreme Knight is requiring that each council establish 4 programs order wide.

- Spiritual Reflection Program
- Consecration to the Holy Family
- Homeless Assistance
- Novena for Life

The Spiritual Reflection Program will consist of the council creating opportunities for prayer and reflection together as a fraternal organization or supporting parish spiritual reflection or retreats. Programs need not be elaborate and could be as simple as opening meetings with the Rosary and closing with the divine mercy chaplet or as complex as hosting a weekend retreat for parishioners for a weekend.

The Consecration to the Holy Family Program will consist of inviting families in the parish to pray together and offer the prayer of Consecration to the Holy Family to invoke the protection of the Holy Family. The Supreme Council the Prayer Card on the supreme web site (#10371) to place in your parish with the permission of the pastor.

The Homeless Assistance Program will consist of living out Corporal Works of Mercy and the first tenant of our Order, Charity. Councils are asked to actively organize or participate in programs that address the needs of the vulnerable and homeless hiding in the shadows of our communities. With this program we are being asked to live the Gospel in our councils and community as describe in Matthew 25:35-36. "35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you made me welcome, 36 lacking clothes and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me."

The Novena for Life Program consist of 9 days of prayer devoted to a culture of life in the parish and our homes. The Novena could be held at any time throughout the year but thought should be given to starting or ending the novena on a major feast day or in conjunction with a pro-life event. Prayer cards can be ordered from Supreme (#9856).

Faith Activities will consist of the following programs sponsored by the Supreme Council:

- Spiritual Formation - Into the Breach
- RSVP (Featured Program)
  - Priest and Religious Dinner (Initiative)
  - Bishops Dinner (Initiative)
  - Adopt a Seminarian (Initiative)
- CIS – Building the Domestic Church
- Family Rosary Program
- Spiritual Retreats **(Required)**
  - Retreats in the North, Central and South (Initiative)
  - Couples Retreats (Initiative)
  - Young Adult Retreats (Initiative)
- Holy Hour
- Marian Prayer Program
- Sacramental Gifts

The State Council will sponsor the following Faith programs:

- Vocation Awareness
  - Call to Serve (Initiative)
  - Pilgrim Vessel Vocation (Initiative)
- Fr Juan Perez and Martyrs
- Council
  - Yearbook (Initiative)
  - Council Bulletin (Initiative)
  - Columbus and Founders Day celebrations (Initiative)

Family Activities will consist of the following programs sponsored by the Supreme Council:

- Family of the Month/Year
- Family Week
- Keep Christ in Christmas
- Holy Family Consecration and Prayer Program **(Required)**
- Family Fully Alive Devotional Program
- Good Friday Family Promotion
- Family Prayer Night
  - World Marriage Day (Initiative)
  - Simple Supper and Stations of the Cross (Initiative)
- Food for Families (Featured Program)

The State Council will sponsor the following Family program:

- Youth Support and Recognition
  - Scholarships (Initiative)
  - Altar Server Appreciation (Initiative)
  - Squires (Initiative)

Community Activities will consist of the following programs sponsored by the Supreme Council:

- Basketball Challenges
- Soccer Challenges
- Youth Essay
- Youth Poster
- Homeless Assistance **(Required)**
  - Veteran Assistance (Initiative)
- Coats for Kids (Featured Program)
- Disaster Response
- Global Wheelchair Mission (Featured Program)
- Habitat for Humanity (Featured Program)

The State Council will sponsor the following Community programs:

- Young Adult Educational Programs
- Volunteerism
- At Risk Youth Outreach

Culture of Life Activities will consist of the following programs sponsored by the Supreme Council:

- Adoration / Silver Rose Program
- Walks for Life (Featured Program)
  - One Life LA (Initiative)
  - Walk for Life San Diego (Initiative)
  - West Coast Walk for Life (Initiative)
- Ultrasound Machine (Featured Program)
- Special Olympics (Featured Program)
- Mass for People with Special Needs
- Pregnancy Center Support
  - Abortion Pill Reversal (Initiative)
  - Adopt a Pregnancy Center (Initiative)
- Novena for Life **(Required)**
- Christian Refugee Relief

The State Council will sponsor the following Culture of Life programs:

- Pro-Life ACE Wings
- Wellness Program
- I.D. Drive Campaign

Brothers please use this information to help guide your planning for the next Columbian Year. I know there will be a lot of questions. There is much more information to come. Keep an eye out for it!

Viva Cristo Rey!

Eric Watson

2018-19 Program Director (Designate)