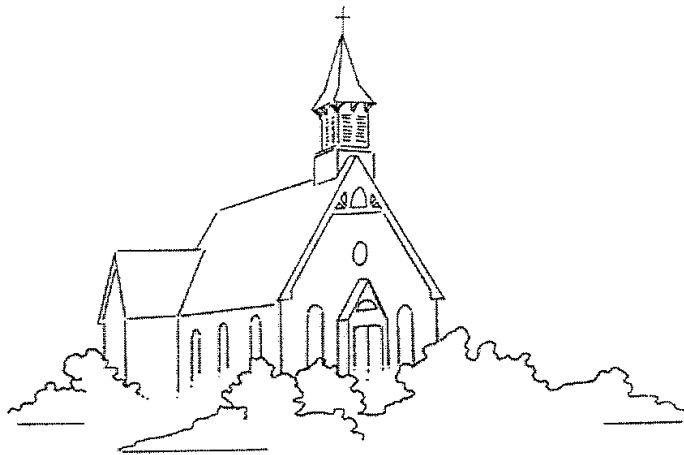


CHURCH ACTIVITIES



R. Steven Thomas
Director

INTRODUCTION

In 1882, Fr. Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus. From that day, we have stood firmly in solidarity with the Catholic Church and her teachings, with the Holy Father, with the Bishops and Priests and all the religious. As Knights, we have pledged ourselves to the service and defense of the Church through loyalty and devotion. We have promised ourselves to follow Her and the Holy Father. We have pledged ourselves freely to Mary, and have promised to always have Her Rosary with us and to pray it as often as possible.

The purpose of the State Church Activities Program is to help and support our members and their facilities to grow in our faith, to serve our church, and to support those in the priesthood and religious life.

Throughout this fraternal year, you will be kept advised of State Council events that are designed to help you achieve these purposes. Keep a close eye on the State Bulletin for upcoming events and dates. Attendance at your Grand Knights' Chapters will also keep you and your chairmen well informed. I strongly urge you to have your Council Church Activities Director visit with the Team at the upcoming State Membership and Program Seminars. Information on all of our programs will be discussed and available to your director at these meetings. I look forward to personally meeting each of you. God Bless!

Vivat Jesus!

Steve Thomas

Steve Thomas
Church Activities Director

CHURCH ACTIVITIES TEAM

Church Activities Director	Steven R. Thomas (10966) 1241 Poplar Avenue Baltimore, MD 21227	Debbie 443-850-2675 Rst822@aol.com
Memorial Mass & Founders' Day Mass	Peter O'Sullivan (7612) 1909 Brightwood Court Eldersburg, MD 21784	Jeanne 410-795-4379 Infpro@verizon.net
Rosary, Icon Program & Divine Mercy Program	Lawrence P. Grayson (2797) 9714 Carriage Road Kensington, MD 20895	Mary Susan 301-933-8731 L.Grayson@ieee.org
Liturgy Team – Coordinator	Rev. Mr. John C. Gramling (4011) 615 Allegheny Avenue Towson, MD 21204-4236	Peg 410-823-0694 JohnC@Gramling.org
Liturgy Team – Coordinator	Rev. Hugh H. Mills, Jr. (5370) 2510 Washington Blvd. Baltimore, MD 21230	Nancy 410-646-5664 HughMillsjr@aol.com
Liturgy Team – Music Director	Doug Byerly (8736) 1214 Overbrook Road Baltimore, MD 21239	Christine 443-677-4575 dbbyerlt@aacc.edu
Liturgy Team – Organist	Regina McCurdy 1301 Pinch Valley Road Westminster, MD 21158-2900	Floyd (1393) 410-876-3850 Rmccurdy816@yahoo.com
Liturgy Team – Cantors	Michael & Kim Dvorak (1393) 215 Liganore Court Westminster, MD 21158	410-876-0440 MAK@Dvorak.net
Parish Round Table Program	Eugene A. Stallings (4449) 816 Turtle Creek Court Bel Air, MD 21014	Ann 410-638-0246 easpe@aol.com
Shrine Usher Program	Guy V. Bellia (11106) 13207 Kara Lane Silver Spring, MD 20904	Dottie 301-384-1518 gvbella@worldnet.att.net

State Council Retreats	Rev. Hugh H. Mills, Jr. (5370) 2510 Washington Blvd. Baltimore, MD 21230	Nancy 410-646-5664 HughMillsjr@aol.com
State Council Retreats	Arnie L. Calhoun (4076) 4413 Ridgecrest Drive Suitland, MD 20746	301-568-3698 arniecalhoun@comcast.net
Vocation Support Program (Baltimore/Wilmington)	James Chachulski (2942) 2336 Searles Road Baltimore, MD 21222	JoAnn 410-288-2363 jchachulski@verizon.net
Vocation Support Program (Washington)	Patrick J. Cantwell 14603 Colonel's Choice Road Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	Maria 301-952-8290 Patrick.j.cantwell@census.gov
Holy Land Outreach Program – Chairman	Rateb Y. Rabie, KCHS (2797) 2425 East Gate Drive Silver Spring, MD 20906	Rocio 301-871-9222 rabie@hcef.org
Father Michael J. McGivney Guild	Rev. Mr. John C. Gramling (4011) 615 Allegheny Avenue Towson, MD 21204-4236	Peg 410-823-0694 JohnC@Gramling.org

CALENDAR OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES

June 2008	<input type="checkbox"/> Schedule Council Memorial Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Appoint Council Church Activities Director <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct 5 th Sunday Council Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting
July 2008	<input type="checkbox"/> Attend the GK Seminar <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting
August 2008	<input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a Church Activity Program (1 st quarter) <input type="checkbox"/> Request a Seminarian to Support (RSVP Program) <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct 5 th Sunday Council Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Attend State Council Membership & Program Seminar <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting
September 2008	<input type="checkbox"/> Celebrate the Blessed Mother's birthday by holding a Living Rosary program <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting
October 2008	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Activities report for 1 st Quarter due by the 15 th <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a Rosary program <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting
November 2007	<input type="checkbox"/> Attend State Council Memorial Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Council Memorial Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct 5 th Sunday Council Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a Church Activity Program (2 nd quarter) <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting
December 2008	<input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting
January 2009	<input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Life March in Washington <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a Council Pro-Life Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Church Activities report for 2 nd Quarter due by the 15 th <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting
February 2009	<input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a Church Activity Program (3 rd quarter) <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting
March 2009	<input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Life Rally in Annapolis <input type="checkbox"/> Founder's Day Mass, Reception & Awards Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct 5 th Sunday Council Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting
April 2009	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Activities report for 3 rd Quarter due by the 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting
May 2009	<input type="checkbox"/> Attend the State Council Convention <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a May Devotion program <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct 5 th Sunday Council Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting\
June 2009	<input type="checkbox"/> Help the incoming Grand Knight with a list of Church activities held in this past fraternal year. <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting

STATE COUNCIL MASSES

The Maryland State Council celebrates Mass together several times each fraternal year. As the Grand Knight of your council, you will be invited to each of these Masses. I urge you to make every effort to participate with us in celebrating these special events. They are:

Grand Knight's Seminar
State Officer's Installation
Memorial Mass
Mid Term Pro-Life Mass
Founder's Day Mass
State Convention Mass

The State Memorial Mass is an opportunity to remember our Brothers and their wives who have been called home to the Lord during the past year. You will be asked to submit a list of those who have died in the past year for inclusion in the program. This is also a great time to remember and bring the widows of you council along.

The Founder's Day Mass celebrates our founder, Father Michael J. McGivney. Come join us in remembering the man who had the vision to start what is now the largest Catholic, family, fraternal organization in the world, more than 1.7 million members strong, and growing. A reception follows this Mass to honor the Family, Teacher, Citizen, EMT, Firefighter and Police Officer of the Year.

ROSARY, ICON AND DIVINE MERCY PROGRAMS

Rosary

As Knights, we are devoted to Mary and her Rosary. This Devotion led to the erection of the Bell Tower at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. The State Council Rosary Program is aimed at promoting the use of the Rosary throughout our councils in devotion to Mary and to win the favors of her Son. As Catholic men, as Knights, we should rededicate ourselves to the recitation of the Rosary.

There are many ways to have a successful council Rosary Program. Pray a Rosary before your council meeting begins, or after the meeting has adjourned. Pray a decade of the Rosary during the meeting for the souls of those members and their families who have been called home. Each council should pray the Rosary together at a special program during the months of May and October, Mary's months.

The Living Rosary is a great way to involve our parishes and schools, especially those parishes with a school. A Living Rosary includes the help of 60 people. Councils that have a Living Rosary are:

Notre Dame Council #2901
Archbishop Keough Council #5263
Holy Family Council #5547
Calvert Council #7870

Rosary Prayer cards and the recitations of the Rosary on tape or CD are available from the Supreme Council. Use these tools and your own ideas to help promote an active Rosary Program in your council. The family that prays together stays together. Have your council family pray the Rosary together, and often.

Icon

The Icon Program is conducted every other year and begins on September 8th, the Birthday of Our Blessed Mother. The Supreme Council selects an Icon with which to celebrate a prayer theme. The Icon calls each Knight to pray the Rosary and to remember that everything is possible when we call on Mary, through her Rosary, for help from Jesus. We have just completed the Icon of Our Lady of Charity. This year, because of our Worthy State Deputy's devotion, we will use the Divine Mercy Icon.

Divine Mercy

The Divine Mercy holds a special place in the heart of our Worthy State Deputy. This is so important to him that it has a place in this year's motto, "**Jesus, I trust in you!**" Given to St. Faustina, by our Lord Jesus, this Chaplet is prayed using a Rosary, reciting the following prayers:

Begin with the Sign of the Cross

Recite one Our Father

Recite one Hail Mary

Recite the Apostle's Creed

On the Our Father beads recite:

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the Hail Mary beads recite:

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Conclude by reciting three times:

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Keep your eyes on the State Bulletin; we will have further information on the Divine Mercy, and its importance, and the life of St. Faustina.

PARISH ROUND TABLE PROGRAM

Father McGivney intended the Knights of Columbus to have a strong working relationship with the pastors of the parishes we serve. In his writings, he projected the council as a social and charitable arm of the parish

The development of the Order during its first century demonstrates that close ties between councils and parishes are mutually beneficial. Members further developed their lives of faith, worship and service, while priests played a vital role in the development of Columbianism. The priests' contributions as members and as chaplains continue to give the Order strength and direction.

The Parish Round Table Program is an offer of service from the local council to every parish in the area to develop Columbianism. The Supreme Council provides a booklet "A Knights of Columbus Presence in Every Parish - The Parish Round Table" (#2632) that gives you the information for a successful program.

The Grand Knight, along with his Program Director and Church Activities Director should select and appoint a Parish Round Table Coordinator. The Grand Knight and coordinator should then schedule a meeting with the pastor of each parish the council serves, to find out how the council can help meet the needs of the parish. The Grand Knight should then complete form 2629 and file it accordingly.

The Parish Round Table initiative - an offer to serve - augments the pastor's existing or contemplated parish programs or organization, since the pastor himself sets the programs. It is simply a matter of going to the pastor on a regular basis and asking him, "Father, what can the Knights of this parish do to help?"

SHRINE USHERS PROGRAM

Members of the Knights of Columbus serve in the Usher Ministry at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, at Michigan Avenue and Fourth Street, NW. The ministry was established in 1982 through a mutual agreement between the Supreme Knight and the Director of the National Shrine. The support program was developed in coordination with representatives of the Knights of Columbus State Council jurisdictions of Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. In 1984, a continuing resolution was passed by each jurisdiction to support the Usher Ministry and to provide that the State Deputy appoint a representative of the jurisdiction to be a member of the Usher Ministry Committee.

Each Grand Knight should encourage his council membership to consider being a part of this ministry. The requirements are:

- Third Degree member in good standing
- Good health and stamina
- Not past 70th birthday

Applications are available throughout the year and interviews are conducted in March. The committee is available to any council to make a presentation with a 15 minute film on the Basilica. Special group tours of the Basilica and the Knights Bell Tower can be arranged by contacting the chairman.

STATE COUNCIL RETREATS PROGRAM

Many Brother Knights have made a Spiritual retreat at some point in their lives. The time is spent with insightful talks by the Retreat Master, Mass, Reconciliation, the Rosary, and prayerful contemplation. By taking time away from our normal, hectic schedules, we can spend time focused on our Lord and achieve a sense of renewal and deeper understanding.

Each year, the State Council organizes retreats for participation by members of local councils. Both weekend and single day retreats can be available, as well as couples retreats. Councils are also encouraged to plan their own retreat days or weekends. The State Retreat Chairmen are available to assist you in these efforts.

Retreats provide an excellent opportunity to escape from the pressures of everyday life and to reflect on our spiritual life. It is an opportunity to reflect on the past fraternal years as well as the coming one. It is an opportunity to thank God for His help and guidance, and to pray for His continued guidance, protection and loving care.

VOCATIONS SUPPORT PROGRAM

As Knights, we have pledged our support to the Holy Father, our Bishops and Priests. As we are all well aware, we have fewer priests now than ever before. There is a great and growing need for the call to vocations. It is our duty to support those answering the Call of God.

Through this program, we financially support seminarians; and yes, there is a reward. For every \$500.00 your council gifts in support, the Supreme Council will refund \$100.00. This is done through the **Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP)**.

However, those answering the call to God's work need more than just your financial assistance. They need your prayers, encouragement and friendship. This can be as simple as sending them a Christmas and birthday card, or inviting them to a council event. Ask them to join your council if they are not already a member.

The **"Surge...with Service"** manual describes in great detail programs to develop better understanding of Vocations Support, not only for your council, but also those directed to families and parishes.

Grand Knights will receive a letter from the State Council Vocations Support Chairmen providing the details of the program and a form to complete and return to the chairmen. You have an opportunity to select your own seminarian(s), or you can ask the State Council to assign one to you.

Through your vocations support program, whether or not you financially adopt a seminarian or postulant, your council provides great assistance, prayers and moral support toward filling a great need.

In SOLIDARITY with our PRIESTS!

FATHER MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY GUILD PROGRAM

This is, perhaps, the simplest program to participate in. Simply fill out a registration form that can be found in the Columbia magazine and send it in. Even easier, do it on-line at KofC.org and follow the links. There is no cost. You will receive regular updates and newsletters from the Guild with information on Father McGivney's cause for sainthood. Filled with devotional ideas and items, and letters from other members of the guild reporting favors from Father McGivney, the newsletter is a welcome addition to your mailbox. Appoint a chairman for your council and sign up your entire membership. Join today. Father McGivney needs you!

HOLY LAND OUTREACH

The Knights of Columbus is committed to assisting the Christians in the Holy Land through the Holy Land Outreach Program. The program's purpose is to raise awareness of the dire situation in the Holy Land, to assist the Christians living there through spiritual and financial support, and thus to help assure that the places of our Lord's life are maintained as active, viable shrines. In addition to encouraging each council and assembly in Maryland to support the Catholic education of one child in the Holy Land, the program encourages councils to pray for the Christians in the Holy Land, develop school-to-school, church-to-church and family-to-family partnerships with Holy Land entities, promote the sale of olive wood crafts that support some 800 families in the Bethlehem area, sponsor speakers at your council or church on the situation in the Holy Land (the program is establishing a roster of speakers), promote pilgrimages to the Holy Land, and publish educational information in council newsletters and on council websites.

SUGGESTED CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Below are examples of some successful Church activities and the councils where the activities were conducted. Grand Knights should contact the councils directly for more information on these activities. Many more worthwhile activities are listed in the annual Book of Reports.

Fr. Joseph G. McManus Council #7941

This council holds an annual Christmas Pageant. The families of the children involved in the pageant, Brother Knights, and Ladies from the Auxiliary all contribute so that this special evening will be a success. Approximately 300 people attend.

Bishop Sebastian Council #5058

This council holds an annual Clergy Night. Following Holy Mass, over 40 priests, deacons and nuns are served a tasty dinner prepared by a Church Youth Group. Certificates of Appreciation are presented to each religious present. A picture is taken as a souvenir of the occasion.

Patuxent Council #2203

This council hosted its Annual Vocations Roundtable at Saint Mary's Church. There were 31 youth that participated, including the Saint Mary's Youth Group. Speakers included an Associate Council Chaplain and a Deacon talking about their experiences, and a council officer speaking about the strong support for vocations in the Knights of Columbus.

Sacred Heart Council #2577

Twelve First Friday Masses were held followed a mini-supper prepared by council members and the Ladies Auxiliary.

Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council # 6793

This council constructed 2' x 4' wooden crosses which were then painted baby blue and pink by the day school children and the evening school of religion students. The crosses were used as an outdoor display for the annual March for Life.

Bishop Carl A. Fisher Council #11617

This council participated in the installation of a new parish priest/pastor and showed him a tremendous welcome as nine members volunteered nearly three hundred hours to build a side chapel in the church at his request.

Fr. Horace B. McKenna S.J. Council #11024

This council believes in supporting its seminarians. A fall barbecue was held for all 150 plus seminarians at Mt. Saint Mary's College. Before the evening barbecue, the council members attended evening vespers with a seminarian being assigned to each brother knight. In the spring a return trip is made to the seminary, this time to cook dinner for the seminarians at the Mount who were sponsored by the Archdiocese of Washington.

Our Lady of Fatima Council #6901

This council celebrated a combined District/Council Memorial Mass, where they involved the Color Corps as well as the children of the Brother Knights. A social gathering with refreshments followed the event.

Fr. Charles O. Rosensteel Council # 2169

This council held its 30th Annual Nun's Appreciation Night. The activity was a great success as nearly 100 nuns were in attendance. The success of this event is directly attributable to advanced planning among the parishes, community and the council.

Other Suggested Church Activities

Conduct a Blue Mass to honor policemen and firemen

Convene a 5th Sunday of the Month council Mass and breakfast

Hold a Marian Hour of Prayer

Contact Ted Daigle for a Ted and Teddy Rosary Presentation

Coordinate a Living Rosary

Select a Catechist of the Month

Hold an Appreciation Party or outing for Altar Servers

Pray the Rosary at Funeral Homes

Conduct a Council Retreat

Participate in a Clergy Appreciation Night

CHURCH ACTIVITY AWARD CONTEST FORM

SEND TO STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Dan Ward
9713 Dixie Ridge Terrace
Gaithersburg, MD 20882

Date received by State Program Director _____

From GRAND KNIGHT _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____

COUNCIL NAME _____ NUMBER _____ DISTRICT _____

LOCATION _____
(CITY) (ZIP CODE)

THE INFORMATION THAT FOLLOWS DESCRIBES OUR COUNCIL'S PROJECT AND SERVES AS OUR ENTRY IN THE STATE COUNCIL'S SERVICE PROGRAM AWARDS CONTEST.

DATE PROJECT CONDUCTED _____

TITLE OR NATURE OF PROJECT _____

WHO BENEFITED MOST FROM THIS PROJECT? _____

CHAIRMAN _____
(NAME-ADDRESS-TELEPHONE NO.)

NUMBER OF COUNCIL MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN PROJECT _____

DESCRIBE PROJECT IN DETAIL. (PHOTOGRAPHS, NEWS CLIPPINGS, ETC. MAY BE INCLUDED WITH THIS REPORTING FORM. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY)

SIGNED _____
(GRAND KNIGHT)

ATTEST _____
(DISTRICT DEPUTY) (DATE)

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN. COMPLETED ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR AS FOLLOWS:

- () BEST FIRST REPORT PERIOD ACTIVITY (APR THRU SEPT) DUE BY OCTOBER 15TH
- () BEST SECOND REPORT PERIOD ACTIVITY (OCT, NOV, DEC) DUE BY JANUARY 15TH
- () BEST THIRD REPORT PERIOD ACTIVITY (JAN, FEB, MAR) DUE BY APRIL 1ST

PLEASE INDICATE REPORT BEING SUBMITTED