

HOLY FAMILY ICON PROGRAM INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE HOLY FAMILY PRAYER SERVICE

1. **Unless prior arrangements have been made, it is each District Deputy's responsibility to pick up the Holy Family Icon and program materials from the previously assigned District.** Each District Deputy is responsible for providing the Icon and program materials to the Councils in the District hosting prayer services.

Please refer to the Holy Family Icon schedule for District assignments and dates assigned.

2. **The Holy Family Program materials include the following items:**
 - a) **Box 1: Large black container with the Holy Family Icon. (In addition, a collapsible tripod is included for displaying the Icon).**
 - b) **Box 2: Black case that contains the Holy Family Service instructions, prayer books and Holy Family Holy Cards.**
3. **Depending upon the number of people attending the prayer service, two to four Knights should serve as ushers** to distribute prayer books and seat guests. **At the end of the prayer service, the ushers should collect all prayer books and give a holy card to each person as they leave.** *When you receive the materials, if you are low on Holy Family Holy Cards, let us know and we will get more to you. Please don't wait until the holy cards are totally gone to call or email.*
4. **Prior to the beginning of the prayer service,** it is suggested that the Grand Knight welcome all who are attending the prayer service and read the following brief history.

The Holy Family Icon Program began on August 5, 2015 at the 132nd Supreme Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Each Knights of Columbus Jurisdiction received several Holy Family images, which will be the centerpiece of prayer services in churches and councils throughout the Order. The State of Maryland received four Holy Family images that are traveling through 33 Districts across the state from November 21, 2016 through June 30, 2017. The current Holy Family Icon Program is in the 17th Marian Prayer Program sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The first program in 1979 honored our Blessed Mother under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe. In preparation for the 1982 Centennial Anniversary of the Order, the second prayer program was initiated, which highlighted the Holy Family. Since then, the Blessed Mother has been honored under several of her titles, with the latest program, the Immaculate Conception, in 2013 and 2014.

5. **Please invite your Fourth Degree Color Corps to participate** in the prayer service. The Color Corps should escort the Priest/Deacon, Grand Knight (and other dignitaries) at the beginning of the prayer service. At the end of the prayer service, two Color Corps members should stand next to the Holy Family Image and assist anyone who wishes to come forward to venerate the Holy Family image.
6. **After your prayer service,** please send an email to Ed Haynes with your total head count of those in attendance at the Prayer Service. In that count please include yourself as well as Color Corps, Music, Clergy, etc. (Basically everyone that attended the Prayer Service).
7. **If you have any questions,** please contact Ed via email at edhayneskc@comcast.net or cell phone at (301) 514-6359.