**UPDATE – MARYGOLD PROGRAM**

Brothers All – first I’d like to say that the Life Activities Team hopes that you have been able to remain safe and are being kind during these unprecedented times. To this end and with our MaryGold Program having been cancelled for this fraternal year make an opportunity to thank mothers on Mother’s Day. As we approach Mother’s Day take the time to ask your parish Pastor what plans are for holding services in May. We already know that some parishes are not going to allow flowers to be distributed on Mother’s Day even if services are resumed. If Archdioceses allow parishes to hold services in May and you can recognize mothers for their decision of choosing life and giving birth the following is some basic information.

Information on availability of marigolds and carnations doesn’t look promising. The bad news is the wholesale florist for carnations that Maryland State Council has used for the past several years cannot support individual orders from our Councils. They are not staffed nor logistically capable of supporting individual orders. It is suggested that councils talk with local florists to check availability and costs.

The good news is Catoctin Mountain Growers will make themselves available for retail purchase on Saturday only. This is the only time they can do retail sales based on their staff. This may put pressure on councils since most prep for Saturday afternoon Masses. Orders would need to be placed and picked up at their nursery located in Keymar Maryland. If you want to place an order with Catoctin Mountain Growers their phone number is 410-775-7833. The name of the marigold pack is “804 Pack” and the retail price for each pack is $2.41 which includes 8 pots (flowers) per flat pack. Catoctin can offer wholesale pricing with an order of $500 or more. If a Council wishes to purchase at a wholesale price, they can contact Catoctin directly and request an order which exceeds $500 letting them know they are from the Knights of Columbus.

I want to thank your state chairman James “Rob” Edrington for his efforts with this endeavor.

Roger Donnelly, Life Activities Director – Maryland State Council KofC