

MESSAGE FOR NOVEMBER

Christmas is just around the corner. There are several Programs you may want to undergo and/or participate in, such as Keep Christ in Christmas, Consecration to the Holy Family, and Campesinos (Coats for Kids, Food for Families, and ASAP (Aid and Support After Pregnancy).

Also a few worthwhile programs that are not time sensitive and your council has the ability to help out: Helping Hands, RSVP (Refund Support Vocation Program), WRAP (Women's Religious Assistance Program), Special Olympics.

Looking forward to the start of 2024, your council can participate in the Walk for Life by joining your parish group or the Knights of Columbus group going to the event.

Another important event your council can start working on is the Basketball Free Throw.

There are so many Faith in Action programs your council can do to make your "Light" shine more.

As the Holy Scriptures said:

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. (Matthew 5:13-16)



Hector C. Poblete
State Program Director

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

1. State Program for November - Helping Hands

This program will help State Chapters and Councils identify resources available to assist in caring for the disadvantaged community. These resources may include, but not be limited to, local homeless shelters and food banks, as well as the Catholic Charities and member agencies in the respective Chapter/Council area. The Councils and Chapters are encouraged to work in cooperation with and provide support to the shelters and Catholic Charities agencies.

2. State Program for December - Consecration to the Holy Family

Families today face many struggles, both through cultural pressure and through the personal struggles that accompany family life. Despite these struggles — and partly as a result of conquering them — families have great capacity for love and joy, a joy that is strengthened through the peace and truth found in Christ. To assist families in living out this joy of Christ, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori has composed a prayer through which families may come together to consecrate themselves under the protection of the Holy Family. We invite every family of our parish to engage in the Consecration to the Holy Family.

3. Keep Christ in Christmas

The Keep Christ in Christmas (KCIC) Program brings all KCIC activities together under one umbrella. It encourages councils to prompt their neighbors to shift from a preoccupation with materialism to the light of Christ and the spirit of giving. KCIC activities include whatever efforts best suit the parish and community of a particular council and do not need to originate from the Supreme Council.

Simbang Gabi

Simbang Gabi celebrations began in the Philippines in 1668 when Spanish missionaries brought the practice from Mexico as part of their evangelization. At the time, they had a tradition of celebrating pre-Christmas novena Masses in honor of the Annunciation. These Masses were known as "Misa de Gallo" or "rooster Mass," because they were celebrated early in the morning to accommodate farmers, who often start work before sunrise to escape the heat in the fields.

Simbang Gabi (Filipino for "Evening or Night Mass"), also called Misa de Aguinaldo ("gift mass"), is a devotional novena practice of a nine-day series of Masses attended by Filipino Catholics in anticipation of Christmas and to honor the Blessed Mother. It traditionally begins during Advent on December 16 and ends on December 24. It is similar to the nine dawn Masses leading to Christmas Eve practiced in Puerto Rico called Misa de Aguinaldo. Here in the US, this nine-day series of Masses is held in the evening or at dawn and is now celebrated by Filipino Catholics and non-Filipino Catholics.

Posadas/Journey to the Inn

With the bustle of Christmas shopping and the frequent removal of religious imagery from Christmas displays, it seems that communities have forgotten the incredible gift of Christ and the beauty of his birth. What should we, as Knights of Columbus, do in the face of this secularism? How can we teach our communities that Christmas is a holy day celebrating the birth of Christ? Such questions, of course, are not wholly new; Franciscan missionaries in the 16th-century faced similar concerns when first introducing Christ and his beloved Mother to the New World. In the tradition of their founder, St. Francis of Assisi, the missionaries found that simple reenactments of the story of Christ's birth could touch the hearts of the Mexican people. The Spanish missionaries referred to these ceremonies as Las Posadas — meaning "the inns" or "the shelters" — as they gave emphasis to Mary and Joseph's search for shelter before Our Savior's birth. These festivities have remained popular throughout Latin America and the southwestern United States, yet children and adults from all cultural backgrounds can use similar celebrations to embrace the true meaning of the Christmas season and share the joy of Christ's birth.

For more information on the Keep Christ in Christmas (KCIC) Program, please contact programs@californiaknights.org and Faith-in-Action@CaliforniaKnights.org

4. OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE (under Cultural Devotional Practices)

Brother Knights, as many know, The Virgin of Guadalupe refers to when the Virgin Mary, appeared before Saint Juan Diego in Mexico in 1531. She holds a special place in the culture and religious life of many Catholics throughout the United State, Mexico, and many countries. Also known as **Our Lady of Guadalupe**, Spanish **Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe**. There is no reason why we as Knights are not at the center of such celebrations.

As Members of the Knights of Columbus, let us take a strong active role at our parishes. Meet with your local parish priest and offer your Council's assistance in the planning of the upcoming celebration.

This day has become important for Mexican Americans to celebrate their religious and cultural identity. In preparation for the feast day, many individuals in the community erect altars in their home. In many cases they are made of a painting of Our Lady of Guadalupe that is surrounded by candles and flowers.

Celebrations usually include a time of prayer, fanfare/festivities which include dance presentations, parades and fireworks.

5. March for Life (Show public support for the right to life)

The Knights of Columbus encourages others to choose life through public support of the pro-life cause. Knights can sponsor, promote, and participate in existing local, state, provincial

and national marches. They can also organize bus trips. Councils in areas without existing events can organize new rallies, walks and marches on their own or by coordinating with other pro-life organizations. **For additional information, visit kofc.org/march.**

The Knights of Columbus respect, defend, and promote the dignity of every human person, at every moment and in every condition. The Order has long stood at the forefront of the movement to protect human life. What better way to continue this commitment than to gather with thousands of others in your community to celebrate life in all its stages and to bear public witness to the simple undeniable truth that human life is made in the image and likeness of God and is to be held sacred from conception to natural death.

January 13, 2024, Saturday - San Diego Walk for Life

January 20, 2024, Saturday - Walk for Life West Coast, San Francisco

January 20, 2024, Saturday - One Life LA, Los Angeles

For more information on this program, please contact

programs@californiaknights.org, and Faith-in-Action@CaliforniaKnights.org

STATE PROGRAMS OF THE MONTH

November - Helping Hands - COMMUNITY

December - Consecration to the Holy Family - FAMILY

January - Novena for Life - LIFE

February - Mass for People with Special Needs - LIFE

March - Spiritual Reflection - FAITH

April- Good Friday Family Promotion - FAMILY

May - Marian Prayer - Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians - FAITH

June - Building the Domestic Church Kiosk - FAITH

FORM 10784

To go directly to submit the report, click on the following link to access Form 10784:

<https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/spa/invite.html?lang=en&form=10784C.02>

or

<https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/spa/invite.html?lang=en&form=10784C.019>

Once you enter your membership number and name it will give you this message:

Please check your email account (In Box or Spam Folder) for an email from donotreply@kofc.org, for instructions to file your 10784 online. If you do not receive an email, please ask your financial secretary / faithful comptroller to make sure you have an email on file in Member Management.

Video on Form 10784

To get instructions on how to fill up Form 10784 to report an event which is not on Family of the Month, Coats for Kids, Global Wheelchair Mission, Habitat for Humanity, March for Life, Silver Rose, and Special Olympics, [Watch this short video tutorial](#) for step by step process in filling up the form.

If you are reporting an event which is on Family of the Month, Coats for Kids, Global Wheelchair Mission, Habitat for Humanity, March for Life, Silver Rose, and Special Olympics, please access the following link to the video which includes additional information and form to submit for Family of the Month, Coats for Kids, Global Wheelchair Mission, Habitat for Humanity, March for Life, Silver Rose, and Special Olympics

https://site-842560.bcvp0rtal.com/detail/videos/forms_/video/6222163148001/fraternal-programs-report-form-10784-training-video?autoStart=true

For **July**, there were **61** forms submitted from **24** councils.

For **August**, there were **81** forms submitted from **34** councils.

For **September**, there were **114** forms submitted from **37** councils.

There has been improvement from month to month but we need to continue encouraging councils to submit forms, especially since we have **730** councils in our State.

FORM 10784 INCENTIVE

July winner - Council 16185 under District 70, Central Chapter

August winner - Council 4438 under District 98, Southern California Chapter.

September winner - Council 11393 under District 148 , Arrowhead-Desert Valley Chapter

FORM STSP

Form STSP is used for the State Council Program Awards. You can access this in our state website www.californiaknights.org under council forms.