



2007-2008  
**CHURCH SERVICE**  
**PROGRAM IDEAS**

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# CHURCH PROGRAM THOUGHTS

The lay apostolate (you and me), must respond to the call to action in the Work of the Church. Your council has the numbers, the organization, and the communication ability to get involved and spread the “Good New” of the Lord throughout the Christian community. Initiate programs through which members can practice their Catholic duties in the fields of charity, devotion and education.

We all know that the summer months are the hardest to get things done. But having a positive attitude and not losing any time, you and your officers, directors, chairmen can all have action in your monthly meeting to go over projects - pro and con. Pick out ones that pertain to your council and parish’s strengths and needs.

The following are categories and positive actions for Church Activities.

RELIGIOUS DEVOTION

PAROCHIAL SERVICES

COUNCIL CHURCH ACTIVITIES

## ***Religious Devotions***

1. Offer the Council’s service to the Pastor. Set up a calendar for the members and their families to assist at Mass as Greeters, Ushers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Collectors (Gift Bearers; Food Pantry for example Brown Bag Sunday, depending on age children can be Altar Servers.
2. Plan with the Pastor to have a monthly Saturday “Clean Up Day” of the Church inside and outside. Fix up small repairs (like kneelers and such). All Council members and families can donate their time and materials.
3. Take part in the Welcoming Committee along with other parishioners, to welcome new parishioners to the parish with a signing in and a reception. Make them feel at home.
4. Ask permission of Pastor to have a Knights Bulletin Board in Church and Keep un-dating it with KofC News, Information of catholic doings, Keep Christ in Christmas, Knights Christmas cards.
5. 5 Dedicate your council to attend whatever Mass one attends and sit as a Family group, so parishioners can see a visible sign of the Knights.
6. In May and November have a special Mass for Blessed Mother Mary in May and a Deceased Members and their families Mass in November with the Knights putting on a reception after.
7. During the year at Thanksgiving time and Easter time have a contingent of Members and families as a group attend with other parishioners in the Ecumenical Services put on by the area Clergy. Walk the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday.

## ***Parochial Services***

1. “Adopt a Catholic School “program, during school vacations; summer time to fix up. paint, day with School Principles or officials. The council can Supply the paint, tools and etc. Members and families can bring their own cleaning supplies.
2. Purchase uniforms for athletic teams of the local Catholic School or CYO Team.. Sponsor CYO teams and attend all games if possible, being a coach, Manager etc. for both school CYO.
3. Catholic Holidays in parochial school and religious education are outlawed in public school. To off-set this councils could offer aide to teachers, to assist in creating themes with background scenes, costumes and helping with Rehearsals.
4. Offer the council and their families to take part in the Religious Education Program as teachers, teachers aides, office helpers, monitors; hail and outdoors, arts and crafts helpers, also with materials and supplies.
5. To make presentations of religious pamphlets available to the Religious Education and the RICA programs. As well as distributing Rosary’s to Confirmation Candidates in both programs.
6. Have council put on a Communion breakfast for the First Communion Children in the parish center or hail, a small religious token would be nice Reminder of the Knights. Also for Reconciliation students pamphlets are available from Supreme.
7. Host a dinner for the Confirmation candidates- husbands, wives and children can prepare, clean up after. Have linen table cloths and napkins In red/white motif. The Rosaries can be given at that time.

## **Council Church Activities**

1. January has National Vocations Awareness Week and April has World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The vocation committee of each council should Plan with the Pastor and the Vocation Committee of the Parish to have a Gathering of young men and women along with seminarians, postulants, priests and sister as guest speakers to tell of the reason why they said yes And how their lives are. Videos can be used at this function. A reception should follow.
2. Offer assistance to the Pastor with the Saint Vincent DePaul Program. With (2) two Knights interviewing those requesting assistance and then delivering To the ones not able to get out.
3. Even though most Pastors are chaplains of councils; invite the pastor once a month to come to the council meeting to give talks on our religion. Such as “Our call to Evangelization” and other subjects that will help us to Understand our faith better.
4. Spread the Good News about the Catholic faith in the Church community by maintaining a Catholic video lending Library for use by the parish and council families. Once an accumulation of videos are available lend them to Members, their families and parishioners. Prepare a sign out sheet and keep track of who takes what video and a time to return them on time and in good condition. Consider setting a price for renting the videos, a non-perishable food item that then can be donated to the local Soup Kitchen
5. Organize a study group between knights , their families, parishioners, their families to read and discuss Pope John Paul II apostolic exhortation On the role of the laity, “Christifideis Laici”. Lay people need to know more about what our role in the future of the Church will be. Christifidelis Laici can be found in any Catholic Religious Book Store.
6. Utilize the Catholic Information Service, located at the Supreme Council Office. CIS produces pamphlets outlining Catholic Doctrine on many topics. Consider setting up a rack of information of CIS material in local parishes so that parishioners or visiting non-Catholics can have them available as resources. A complete listing of pamphlets can be Obtained by writing to the Catholic Information Services, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510
7. Promote membership in the Father Michael J. McGivney Guild. The Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney. The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics. Guild members are invited to participate in promoting devotion to this Servant of God. To join the Guild, call 203-752-4087 or register directly on their web site, [www. father McGivney.org](http://www.fatherMcGivney.org)