

BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

While Strengthening Our Parish



“The family as domestic church is central to the work of the new evangelization and to the future sustainability of our parishes.” ~ Supreme Knight Carl Anderson

Featured Program

FAMILY ROSARY PROGRAM

Throughout the last two years, the Supreme Council has been promoting the 5th Sunday Rosary Program as a means of helping bring parishioners together in a spiritual activity in honor of Mary. Now, we are happy to announce the Family Rosary Program as part of the Building the Domestic Church Series.

The new program builds off many aspects of the 5th Sunday Rosary Program, focusing on the fact that councils should regularly and frequently organize a group to pray the rosary at their parishes. Under the new program, councils are welcome to schedule these parish rosary events on any day of the week, at any time of the year. With their pastors' permission, they should personally invite each family of the parish



to these events. Also, as part of the program, Knights should encourage families to regularly pray the rosary together in their home. At each Family Rosary Event, offer each attending family a copy of Catholic Information Service's *A Scriptural Rosary for the Family* (#319), encouraging them to read it and learn how their family's faith can be strengthened through a devotion to Our Lady.

Available to assist your program are the *Rosary Kit* (#SR-Kit), which includes 25 finger rosaries and brochures on how to pray the rosary, and the CIS booklet *Scriptural Rosary for the Family* (#319). Participants may also use their own rosaries, and Knights are encouraged to use the rosaries that they received during their First Degree. Should councils wish to order additional rosaries or rosary rings, they — along with additional booklets — are available at knightsgear.com.

This rosary program falls under the Church activity category of the Columbian Award. Any council-sponsored rosary service held before June 30 should be listed as a part of 5th Sunday Rosary Church Activity on the Columbian Award Application (#SP-7).

Monthly Planning Items

- ✓ Continue planning your K of C Family Week events. Be sure to check out the Family Week Celebrations link listed under Programs at kofc.org/domesticchurch.
- ✓ Finalize your Father's Day's Affirmation of Wedding Vows event. Prepare pulpit announcements and advertisements for the event, and ready them for publication in the parish bulletin and on your website.
- ✓ Meet with your pastor regarding ways the council can best serve your parish.

Council Reflection

THE ART OF LIVING

Parents have, or should have, a unique relationship with their children. They have been called by God to love their child with the same faithful, self-giving love in which the child was conceived. ... To be sure, the notion of “self-giving love” is not an idealistic or naive concept dreamed up by theologians. It is demanding and sacrificial. Self-giving love has its source in the Trinity and is revealed most fully by Jesus on the Cross. It requires what Pope Francis calls “an exodus from self” so that we might focus on the needs of others, even when that causes disruption in our lives. ...

Most fundamentally, teaching children the “art of living” involves lessons of faith and character. Parents teach children their first prayers, bring them to Mass on Sunday, and help them develop a basic sense of right and wrong coupled with a sense of responsibility. They also teach gratitude and generosity by helping their children learn to take care of their possessions; to not always expect to have the latest and best of everything; and to grow in the habit of sharing what they have with others. Moreover, parents help their children learn to handle life's inevitable disappointments, including the invidious comparisons that are part of the highly competitive and materialistic culture in which we live. Such lessons are best learned at home, in an atmosphere of respect and love.

This reflection, written by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori, appears as a meditation in Building the Domestic Church: The Family Fully Alive (#10162). An online version of the booklet may be accessed at kofc.org/domesticchurch. Copies may ordered from knightsgear.com.

Family Prayer Corner

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; so that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart. Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St. Joseph, patron of departed souls, pray for us. Amen.

