Cultivating Parish Success: Investing in Key Relationships

November 25, 2020
Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

God, Our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church.
Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Cultivating Parish Success: Investing in Key Relationships

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The Beatification of Our Founder
Agenda

1. Recap: Planning for Success
2. Cultivating Parish Relationships
3. The Right Tool: Remote Programming
4. Remote Program Overview
5. Program Examples
6. Recap: Planning + Investment = SUCCESS!!!
Recap: Planning for Success
Recap: Planning for Success

- **Understand our WHY**
  - JESUS

- **Nuts and Bolts of Program Success**
  - Identify needs and opportunities **Meet with Pastor**
  - Plan in advance **Consider Stakeholders**

- **Embrace Creativity**
  - Start with Into the Breach
Key Relationships for Success

• Pastor

• Parish Staff
Let’s be transparent...

• When did your GK last meet with your pastor?

• How many programs has your council run this fraternal year?

• How many initiatives has your council worked on with your pastor or his staff?
Practically, how can we build these relationships?

• 1. Must understand the parish office

• 2. Have the right tools
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Cultivating Parish Relationships
Keep in mind:

• Being in service to the Pastor and his staff takes
  • Discipline
  • Intentionality

• ...and like anything, it’s all about relationships!
How we do business

• KofC councils have specific objectives and ways of doing business
  • These have served us well for over 138 years!

• Our unique structure helps us excel
Who serves who?

• In order to function seamlessly with our parish, we must be 100% in service to the parish.

• Don’t expect the parish to conform to us.

• We must adapt to the dynamics of the parish.
How do you approach the relationship?

Are you and your council...

Window Salesmen?

First Responders?
Understand the Parish Office

• **Who is (often) the most important person on the parish staff?**
  • Parish Secretary

• **Parish Staff**
  • Most are underpaid
  • Many are volunteers
  • Remember, your pastor has chosen them for a reason
Power of Investment

• **Takes Time**
  - Set Up Meetings
  - Follow-Up Meetings
  - Updates and Interaction

• **The right tools for collaboration...**
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The Right Tool: Remote Programming
Why Remote Programming?

- COVID-19 shutdowns reveal a challenge to council activities
- We can use online tools beyond a global pandemic
- *In-person programs will always remain the norm and preference*
What does this mean for your council?

• **Opportunity to re-engage members and community**

• **Opportunity to connect and collaborate with the pastor and his staff**

• **Opportunity to expand the reach and impact of programs and initiatives**
What is the “Remote Programming Supplement?”

• **IS NOT...**
  • A completely new program model
  • A new metric for Columbian Award
  • A change to existing program requirements

• **IS...**
  • A new resource to support council and state activity
  • 100% optional
  • 100% compatible with Faith in Action and other council activity
Remote Programming Overview
Where can I find it?

- This new tool can be found on the Faith in Action overview page
- www.kofc.org/fiaresources
What is in this new tool?

- Written as a checklist
- How to get started – planning and execution
- Program examples
Remote Programming: Pre-Planning

- Identify a council technology expert
- Select programs and possible online tools to enhance programs
- Work with your pastor and parish staff
Planning and Communicating

• Establish your council’s digital “toolkit”
  • Review Faith in Action program guide sheets

• Practice with your council’s digital tools

• Communicate and promote your council’s programs
Execution and Reporting

• Run the program and practice hospitality

• Evaluation and follow-up

• Reporting
  • Minimum Requirements
  • Fraternal Program Report Form (#10784)
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Program Examples
Program Examples

**Faith: Holy Hour**

- Whenever your council or parish hosts a holy hour, work with your pastor to make sure the prayer can be livestreamed.
- In the invitation to join the live-stream, include a copy of the prayers you will use, such as the Service Guide (#10708), so that participants can follow along from home.
- Consider offering some time after the live stream for participants to socialize via a video conference, so they can share their prayer intentions and any powerful moments of prayer that they experienced.

**Family: Family Prayer Night**

- Use video conferencing to run an abridged Family Prayer Night. Plan to have brief introductions, communal prayer, and a brief discussion giving each family a chance to answer questions such as *What has been the best part of the past week?*
- Invite families who are unable to attend an in-person Family Prayer Night to join the prayer portion of the evening through video conferencing.
- Family Prayer Night is ideal for coupling with other Faith in Action programs such as Family Fully Alive or Rosary.
Program Examples

Community: Hockey/Soccer Challenge

- Allow and encourage parents to record their child’s attempt for any of these programs and submit the video recording to the council.
- Encourage participants to practice beforehand, but to ensure fairness, ask that parents record and submit only one official attempt.
- When promoting the event, provide a council email to be used for questions and submission. Provide to those participating digital copies of the scoresheet and guidebook so they participate according to program guidelines. A copy of the scoresheet can either be submitted by the parents or tallied by the council when reviewing the recording.

Life: March for Life

- Stay up to date with March for Life events by visiting marchforlife.org. Become aware of any ways that people can participate digitally if unable to attend in person.
- Visit the March for Life Blog for ideas on how you can stay engaged in the fight to build the culture of life from home.
- Organize your own event and invite speakers to present on pro-life topics relevant to your council and parish community using online video platforms or social media.
- Coordinate your council and community’s participation in webinars and virtual programs offered by your diocese, state Right to Life organizations, and/or pro-life advocacy groups.
Celebrate Blessed Michael McGivney!

- www.kofc.org/beatification

- Council Resources
  - Read
  - Watch
  - Pray
  - Act
  - Order
Recap:
Planning + Investment = SUCCESS!!!
Recap: Programs + Investment = SUCCESS!!!

• **Planning for Success**  
  • Remember the Why  
  • Identify Needs & Opportunities  
  • Plan in Advance

• **Investing in Key Relationships**  
  • Pastor, Parish Secretary, Key Parish Staff

• **Right Tools**  
  • Remote Programming, Creativity & Blessed Michael McGivney
Action Items

• **Set meeting with council leadership**
  • Review Remote Programming Document

• **Set up meeting with pastor/designee & parish staff**

• **Establish/update your council’s program calendar**
Questions?
Special Programs Webinar

December 10, 2020

Topic: Global Wheelchair Mission

All webinars can be found at kofc.org/webinar
Next Monthly Webinar

December 17, 2020

Topic: Updated Guidelines for Council Meetings

All webinars can be found at kofc.org/webinar
Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.
Blessed Michael McGivney, Pray for Us

Vivat Jesus!
Thank you.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to fraternalmission@kofc.org