



# YOUTH & FAITH IN ACTION

## A place for youth in Faith in Action

The Knights of Columbus Faith in Action program model is designed around Faith, Family, Community and Life. Each of these four categories include opportunities for youth involvement. The vision for this program model is for our brother Knights to serve in an inclusive way, to strengthen the bonds between faith and family, to grow deeper in parish life and to be a beacon for our community. Youth are an essential part of our mission.

To serve the youth of our community, we must move beyond the Columbian Squire Circle and instead offer your council's leadership and skills to an existing parish-based youth group. If a parish-based youth group does not exist, consider working with your pastor to start a new group sponsored by the parish and supported by the Knights of Columbus.

- Working with your pastor, obtain his permission and recommendations on working with a youth group in concert with parish life.
- Check with your pastor about safe environment training such as VIRTUS® training. It's vital that all adults, Knights or otherwise, be aware of best practices when working with youth.
- Knights are welcome to serve as a volunteer in support of the parish youth group under guidance of the parish and other Knights.

The Faith in Action program model has many programs that can be adapted for youth moving through parish life. Below are several examples of how Faith in Action can work within the context of church-based youth groups.

- **Food for Families** – Kids can help gather canned goods for your Food for Families program.
- **Special Olympics** – Children in the youth group can volunteer for Special Olympics event(s) in your area.
- **Habitat for Humanity** – Volunteering for Habitat for Humanity is both an opportunity to help your community directly and also a chance for youth to learn practical skills for home ownership.
- **Rosary Program** – This program provides an opportunity for youth to serve directly as leaders in the parish.

Please visit [kofc.org/faithinaction](http://kofc.org/faithinaction) for a more comprehensive look at Faith in Action and to see other programs that might work in your parish-based youth group.

