

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
COUNCIL 3335 GALLIPOLIS
ACTIVITIES OF THE CHURCH COMMITTEE**

December 2006

1. **Matching Funds** (Mandatory). Send a contribution for religious education needs by November 15.
2. **Pennies For Heaven** (Mandatory). Submit council contribution for vocations needs by April 1 to the State Council. We collect the money in a large jar at every meeting.
3. **Keep Christ in Christmas**. We place a billboard on the subject in early December on Jackson Pike in Spring Valley. John Cornett has done an excellent job this year.
4. **Faith Alive Program**. When the "Why Catholic" discussion groups are not active, we have a Video Bible Study Discussion Group Wednesday evenings in the Yacht Club room at 6 pm after mass. While the kids are in CCD, the adults are deepening their knowledge of the Faith. We have used video tapes of lectures by the noted Bible scholar, Dr. Scott Hahn. When he quotes a Bible verse, the participants also look it up. When anybody has a question or comment, the video is put on pause and a discussion ensues.
5. **One Parish, One Community**. We contribute wherever we can to the parish community. These include helping to put up the Christmas decorations, maintenance work on the church and cemetery grounds, etc. The knights have promoted support of the project to build a parish center. We have organized families (including broken ones) to bring up the Offertory gifts at Sunday Mass each week according to a roster. The purpose is to honor families and give the children the opportunity to participate. Hopefully, if children are actively involved in the liturgy, there is a greater probability that they will be faithful as adults. This also gives the designated family a greater incentive to attend mass.
6. **Chaplain or Religious of the Year**. At our annual awards banquet, we recognize a priest or religious.
7. **Vocations Support**. One of the knights gave a seminar on vocations to our Confirmation class last Spring. This year during an absence of the pastor, we will invite a priest to say the mass and give the homily on vocations. In the future, we will have a speaker talk to each CCD class on vocations.

Other Activities (Council Choices)

8. **Knights of Columbus Honor Guard at the Monthly Sunday Afternoon Adoration**. In the tradition of the knights of old who guarded the king with their lives, we guard Christ the King and pray to Him in the Blessed Sacrament. The knights occupying the front pew demonstrate that the men are taking the lead in prayer, thus giving witness to the people and

example to the youth. **OUR GOAL IS TO BE A FORCE FOR THE RENEWAL OF OUR PARISH** as our pastor leads us. He cannot do it alone.

9. **Lead the Rosary at All Masses on the First Saturday and First Sunday of each Month.** The designated knight may lead the entire rosary himself or only do the meditations and the beginning of the rosary, allowing a different member of his family to lead each decade. Children leading parts of the rosary can be a powerful witness to family prayer.
10. **Annual Mass For the Deceased Knights.** All the masses on the second week-end in November are offered for our deceased brother knights.
11. **Host Visiting Priests.** When the pastor is away, usually a missionary priest says the masses and during the homily explains the mission of his order in a fund raising effort. Since the priest is on the road through much of the year, he would certainly appreciate a good home cooked meal with a family. Furthermore, this is an opportunity for him to meet a few people of our parish and learn a little about the dynamics of our parish. Even more valuable is the experience that the parents and children have in knowing the missionary priest as a person and learning about his work. Too often the family imagines the missionary priest only as a minister of the sacraments in some far off land as pictured in a mission magazine. This is a way of promoting vocations.
12. **Host New Families in the Parish.** It may take years for a new family to become fully acclimated and integrated into the parish....knowing people, making friends, and becoming active in parish life. To accelerate this process, a host family is matched to the new family according to similarity of backgrounds or interests and children of the same age. The job of the host family is to invite the new family for dinner or tea, orient them to parish activities, and introduce them to a number of parishioners.

In all of these activities, the Church Committee may use its own members or recruit other knights and parishioners, depending upon the situation. In any event the Church Committee has the responsibility of leading and coordinating each activity while mobilizing fellow knights and others to help as needed.