

## *Knights of Columbus - Diocese of Pittsburgh* **Vocations Support Program**

**PRAYERS:** Prayers for Vocations are very important. Encourage your membership and their families to pray for vocations in general, or for specific seminarians / postulants as they see fit. Open and/or close your council or assembly meetings with a prayer for vocations – the Serra Prayer for Vocations would be good, or select from many prayers suggested by our Supreme Council. Encourage prayers for vocations through your council newsletter.

**ADOPT-A-SEMINARIAN:** We encourage every council/assembly/circle to “Adopt” a seminarian, preferably a Seminarian of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. To adopt a seminarian from the Diocese of Pittsburgh, contact myself or one of the Chapter Coordinators. We will recommend a seminarian to your council/assembly, or provide information so that you may select one. You will be given his biography, and a completed K of C questionnaire. You will decide how much you want to be involved with your particular seminarian. Remember that with seventy-eight councils and eleven assemblies in the diocese, it is expected that each seminarian will be “adopted” by three units.

**A** – You will begin by including him in your prayers at every council/assembly meeting.

**B** – You will encourage your members and their families to include him in their daily prayers.

**C** – You will encourage your membership to send him greeting cards on his birthday and on other occasions such as Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. Suggest that they include a few dollars from time to time. Most seminarians need extra money for auto expenses, insurance, etc.

**D** – Consider sending him an occasional “Care” package; cookies, toiletries, etc.

**E** – Invite him to visit your council socials, and if he is a K of C member, to an occasional council meeting. Remember he has a very busy schedule and may not be able to accept every invitation.

**RSVP:** Consider supporting him through the Supreme Council's “**RSVP**” (Refund Support Vocations Program). This program refunds \$100 for every \$500 given to the support of individual Seminarian.

**The preferred way is to send him checks monthly, along with a little note of encouragement.**

The next best way is Quarterly – September, November, January & March. Or you can send them on a Semi-annual (September & January); or Annual basis.

More details can be found under the heading of Vocations on the Supreme Council web-site.

**PARISHES:** Team up with your Parish Vocations Program – share your “Adopted” seminarian with the grade schools or CCD programs within your council territory. Have classes select all or any of the suggestions covered in “**A** thru **E**” above. This will not only help support the seminarian, but will further enlighten the students in regard to the life of the seminarian and hopefully encourage and nurture future vocations.

**VOCATIONS MATERIAL:** There is an abundance of vocations literature and other material available from Supreme Council. Most of it is available at no cost to the council, except for possibly shipping charges. Refer to the supply catalog or the new Supplies Online web-site.

**SEMINARY VISITS:** Visits to the seminary can be arranged for your members and grade or high school students by contacting the Director of Vocations. This would help you and the students better understand seminary life.

### **K of C MEMBERSHIP:**

Support of seminarians is not contingent upon their membership in the Knights of Columbus.

However, many of the seminarians are already K of C members. Those seminarians who are not Knights may consider joining when they see how much the K of C supports vocations.

*Remember, the Seminarian that you support today may be the Pastor you deal with tomorrow!*

**This is just a brief outline of the Knights of Columbus – Diocese of Pittsburgh Vocations Program. You may pick and choose how much you and your council want to be involved. At the very minimum, include prayers for vocations in your daily prayers and at your council meetings. We appreciate your comments and suggestions to add to or improve upon our support of vocations.**

**For more information contact**

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