

Building the Domestic Church

Kenny Gonzales

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Objectives

- What is the Domestic Church Initiative?
 - How can it drive growth, engagement and evangelization?
- Why the need for these programs?
 - Benefits for our councils, parishes, members and families
- How do we strengthen our families and parishes?
 - Strategies for getting started and implementing programs.



Our Mission To Build the Domestic Church and³ Strengthen Parish Life

“Today, the Knights of Columbus is providentially positioned to play a key role in the new alliance between the Church and the family... But for us to do so requires that we adopt new methods.”



What is *Building the Domestic Church*?

- A Guide to council programming
- A vision that appeals to younger men and family men – towards a “family friendly” council and parish
- Advances the goals of the parish – renewal of parish life
- Programs that form our members and strengthen the family



Keys to Building the Domestic Church

Membership Growth – Lead with Faith

- Young men and young families need this support
- Our prospects want these types of programs

Member & Parish Engagement – Family centered programs

- We are called to lead a renewed relationship between the Church and the family

Charity that Evangelizes – Our Mission

- As Catholic leaders, our service must be more relevant and effective for parishes



What Does This Mean for Councils?

- Increased opportunities for Faith Formation for members and their families
- Engagement with Family Life activities that engage the whole family together in the home and in the parish
- Community programs that engage our families and the Catholic community



Getting Started

1. Meet with your pastor.
2. Read or watch the Supreme Knight's address.
3. Explore the Domestic Church web pages.
 - kofc.org/DomesticChurch
4. Promote the Family Fully Alive program.
5. Start an "Into the Breach" study group.



BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

While Strengthening Our Parish



Domestic Church Activities

- Family Rosary Program
- Holy Family Consecration
- Family Fully Alive
- Affirmation of Wedding Vows
- Family Week Celebration
- Journey to the Inn
- Keep Christ in Christmas
- Spiritual Formation Groups
- Into the Breach
- Building the Domestic Church Series
- Holy Family Prayer Program
- Food for Families



What is a DOMESTIC CHURCH Activity?

- *Does it help members and families increase their faith?*
- *Does it bring councils into closer unity with the church?*

If either of these are true, they can be counted as Domestic Church activities.



Council Action Plan

- Special council award for 2017/18
- Organize at least **TWO activities from each of these four areas**
 - Member Activities for faith formation
 - Family Activities for strengthening home life
 - Parish Activities for Church renewal
 - Community Activities

Participating councils receive a commemorative Holy Family icon



PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Engage your parish community
- Build up our families
- Seek to strengthen parish life
- Serve the greatest needs
- Engage the entire family
- Open council “doors” to all parish men



VISION & MISSION

- A well-rounded slate of impactful outreach programs
 - Makes a positive difference in the lives of people in need in the parish and community
 - Demonstrates to men (and their families) that there is a place for them within the K of C
 - Engages council members and strengthens membership experiences



PRIORITY PROGRAMS

- Domestic Church Activities
 - RSVP
 - Coats for Kids
 - Food for Families
 - Ultrasound Initiative
 - Christian Refugee Relief
- Serve to **Recruit, Retain and Engage**
 - Rooted in our principles of **Charity, Unity & Fraternity**
 - Committed service to our **Families, Parishes & Communities**



COUNCIL BEST PRACTICES

- Meet regularly with your pastor
- Conduct programs consistent with parish goals
- Solicit input from a wide variety of sources
- Plan with the parish and community calendar, not against



COUNCIL BEST PRACTICES – cont.

- Visit kofc.org and state council website
- Tabulate the “measurables”
 - Dollars donated
 - Hours worked
- Identify your best programs
- Evaluate every program



Questions?

kofc.org/DomesticChurch

Kenny Gonzales

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State Program Requirements

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State Programs

- State program year runs from April 1 – March 31
- Supreme program year runs from July 1 to June 30
- All Program inputs and Program Reports are due by March 31, 2018
- All councils need to use the online State Program Reports Database
- Kofc-ms.org/Programs/2017-2018 State Program Reports
- Ben Mokry – bwMokry@gmail.com



STATE WEBSITE DATABASE

Only 17 of 63 councils have entered data into the State Program Website.



COUNCILS ACTIVE USING STATE WEBSITE

The following councils have entered data into the database.

802 (4)

6765 (4)

9409 (11)

848 (5)

7854 (5)

10443 (3)

1522 (9)

7974 (4)

11654 (13)

1583 (10)

8054 (7)

11995 (9)

4472 (10)

8285 (5)

15131 (5)

5654 (11)

9124 (12)



New Program – Gary Sinise Foundation

- Program that builds “Smart Houses” for disabled veterans
- Sponsors events and programs at bases and VA Hospitals for military and their families
- Visit website at garysinisefoundation.org for more information
- \$100 donation will count for one program point
- Will be added to Community programs on website



State Awards

- Best Activity Reports (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
 - Church
 - Community
 - Council
 - Family
 - Youth
 - Culture of Life
 - Vocations (Jackson and Biloxi); 1st place only



State Awards – cont.

- Best Council Submittal
- Report summarizes everything the council accomplished throughout the State Year
 - Four categories based on size of councils
 - Small
 - Medium
 - Large
 - Extra Large



State Awards – cont.

- Family of the Year
- Knight of the Year



State Awards – cont.

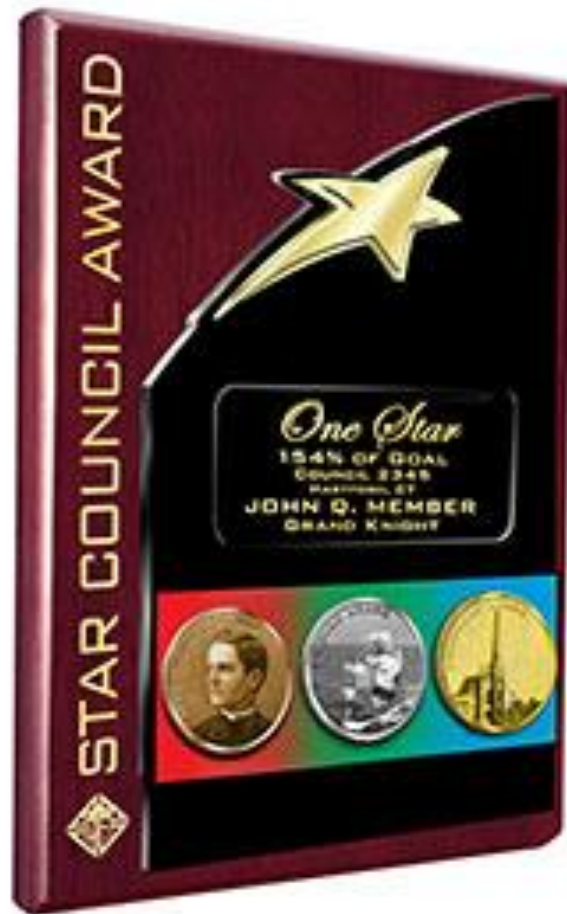
- Honor Council
 - Four activities in each category
- Superior Council
 - Eight activities in each category
- Council of Excellence
 - Five activities in each category and achieve Membership Quota



State Awards – cont.

- **Distinguished Council**
 - Six activities in each category and both Membership and Insurance Quotas
- **Stellar Council**
 - Eight activities in each category and both Top Gun and Insurance Quotas





Star Council Requirements



Star Council Award

- The Star Council Award recognizes outstanding achievement in membership, insurance and service program activities.
- In order to earn the Star Council Award, a council must qualify for the Father McGivney(Membership), Founder's(Insurance), and Columbian Awards(Programs – Four programs from each of Church, Community, Council, Culture of Life, Family and Youth).
- Additionally, the council must submit its Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728), its Service Program Personnel Report (#365), and remain in good standing with Supreme Council assessments.

To be eligible for the Star Council Award in the United States and/or Canada, councils must be fully compliant with applicable safe environment requirements.



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