

Service to One, Service to All Weekend at The Pines
Championing Our Catholic Faith

The Knights of Columbus and The Pines Catholic Camp have a lot of things in common. Besides the obvious Catholic association, The Pines promotes service to others, education of the young and the sanctity of life. But it is in faith formation and vocation development that we are deeply passionate. Since its inception over 30 years ago, The Pines has welcomed 20 young men as campers and counselors that later became priests serving all over Texas and beyond. Over just two years, 2018 and 2019, we have had 5 former campers serving as counselors that were on summer break from seminary. In talking with some of them, each said that The Pines played a role in helping make or reinforcing their decision to pursue the priesthood. We feel very blessed to have played a part in their journey.

Having been a Knight for over 40 years, I know the importance of the priesthood to the membership. After all we were founded by a priest. The encouragement and financial assistance each council provides to current and aspiring priests is exemplary. So, I figured, why not partner up to continue our support of future priests, nuns, youth ministers and lay ministers as they begin their early formation.

Therefore gentlemen, I am proposing a weekend of service, faith and fellowship at our Big Sandy campus to enhance our ability to serve the youth of our faith and foster their building of great relationships with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. 2020 was a tough year for The Pines. in addition to the pandemic, two storms blew through leveling trees and causing damage across campus leaving us in need of help in repairing and restoring our camp. For years I have watched and participated with the Knights and I know you are the right men for the job. So, we are proposing the first annual

Service to One, Service to All Weekend at The Pines.

Though plans are not yet complete, we are looking for 10-12 councils to join us for this special weekend, Friday April 16 -18, 2021.

Preliminary Schedule

Councils would arrive by 5:30 p.m. on Friday, April 16. Each council will have its' own cabin which sleeps 10-12 (20-24 normally) and can check-in any time after 3:00 p.m.

At 6:30 P.M. we will all meet down at our dining hall for a great meal prepared by our Executive Chef and staff. Following the meal, plans for Saturday will be

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presented and work assignments will be handed out during a responsibly distanced social period.

Saturday, April 17 will begin with breakfast at 7:30. Following the meal, Councils will be directed to their assigned areas. Materials will be provided where needed. We plan to have work assignments based on the special talents of the council and our hope is that council members could bring the tools most necessary such as hammers, screwdrivers, pliers, shovels, etc. We will also have tools and equipment available.

Around noon sandwiches will be delivered to each group at their sites. Beverages will be available all day long at each site so everyone can stay hydrated.

At around 5:00 p.m. on Saturday we will blow the workday horn and groups will return to their cabins to prepare for a 5 Meat Barbecue with all the fixings and beverages. After everyone is full and happy, we will invite all to a powerful faith sharing and fellowship program. For those councils wanting to participate after the program we are planning a cornhole tournament with great prizes for the winners.

On Sunday we will close the weekend with a big breakfast around 8:00 a.m. to be followed by Mass at our outdoor Cathedral.

Gentlemen, I know how valuable time is to all of us and to give up a weekend is a sacrifice. But I also know how valuable a young person's strong mind, heart and soul are especially in today's world. We hope you will consider being one of the councils that will make the trek to Big Sandy, Texas for our inaugural event. I promise you that your efforts will be greatly appreciated and utilized by our campers, counselors, and staff. We look forward to working with you!

God bless and GO TREES!

Rick Villarreal

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April 16-18 2021
Hosted by The Pines Catholic Camp
Big Sandy, Texas

Council Name _____ Council # _____

Grand Knight _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Contact for Project

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Additional Knights Attending

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

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Special Skills / Cooking Detail

Although much of the work will involve work that is general in nature such as painting, power washing, grass cutting, etc. we could use some advanced carpentry, plumbing and electrical skills for some small projects on campus. Please list below any of these skills that members of your council could offer during this workday.

Name _____ Skill _____

Name _____ Skill _____

Name _____ Skill _____

Name _____ Skill _____

Name _____ Skill _____

We are also looking for a council that could come in and cook dinner on Friday. The group would have access to our full executive kitchen and could start at any time they need. We would be cooking for approximately 200. We would come to you concerning the menu and The Pines will purchase all the food needed. If you are interested and could take on this duty, please list the contact name below.

☐ We would be able to and like to prepare the meal.

Name of Lead Cook _____

☐ We would not be able to prepare the meal.

Safety and Health Protocol at The Pines Catholic Camp

Your health and safety are paramount to The Pines and we want to assure you that we have instituted and practice a number of recommended protocols and procedures to greatly lessen the chance of an injury and to prevent the transmission of illnesses, including COVID-19. The protocols below are our general practices and there may be others instituted depending on the activity or event.

Injury Prevention Protocol

Make sure all equipment being used is in good and safe working condition
Make sure the proper equipment is being used for the job
Make sure all ladders and lifts are secure before using
Make sure equipment operators are fully educated in the use of each implement
Make sure there is a plan for the work before starting
Check and be aware of all weather conditions and have a stoppage plan
Check surroundings of worksite for hazards such as electrical wiring, water sources or wasps nests
Wear gloves and face shields when necessary
Wear sunscreen when working outdoors
Stay Hydrated !!!

Medical protocols

Make sure all medications are registered with the staff
Temperatures taken twice a day – breakfast and dinner
Anyone feeling dizzy, nauseous, overheated, etc. should immediately stop and report to group leader.
Notify staff of food allergies
Masks worn at all times when inside or within 6 feet of others outside
Grouping by Cohorts – in this case, councils
Proper social distancing by cohort at meals and worship services
Expanded hand washing and sanitizing locations
Stay Hydrated !!!