



## STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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# We are Knights of JOY – Jesus Only You!

Brother Knights and Ladies:

This fraternal year our Worthy State Deputy has chosen the slogan “We are Knights of JOY – Jesus Only You!” For us as Knights of Columbus, we must always keep Christ at the center of all that we do. Our relationship with Jesus must guide all our programs in our councils, auxiliaries, and assemblies “for the joy of the Lord is our strength” (Nehemiah 8:10).



While we as Knights and Ladies have scores of programs that we undertake each fraternal year, we must remember that when Fr. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus, he sought to use the Order to lead people to salvation. While charity is certainly the prime virtue of the Order, we must use our good works to strengthen our parishes and help our families grow in their faith.

Throughout the fraternal year we will be rolling out our JOY program to help you build up our Catholic Faith through our work as Knights and Ladies.

## Program Guide

Throughout the program guide you will find information for all the programs that are sponsored by the Missouri State Council. Many programs are intertwined with the Supreme ones, but others are unique to Missouri and can be used to fulfill the slots for individual programs to achieve the Columbian Award. If you have questions on any of these programs, please talk with your district deputy, or you can contact the chairmen and directors listed in the guide.

Remember, that good programing can help you entice new recruits to join your council or auxiliary.

## Faith in Action

In 2018 the Knights of Columbus rolled out Faith in Action as our new programing model, building off earlier efforts, such as the *Building the Domestic Church While Strengthening Our Parish* initiative.

Faith in Action changed a lot of things from the old programing requirements, putting the focus on building up our parishes and working to strengthen the faith of our families in four main areas: **Faith, Life, Family and Community**. This programing is vital to not only bolstering the Catholic Church in Missouri,

but recruiting new members, especially Millennial and Generation Z men who want to increase their faith and deepen their relationships with their families.

There is only space to summarize the components of Faith in Action here. But throughout this program manual you will see those activities explained by my fellow directors. Supreme's website has the official forms and information: <https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/faith-in-action-programs/index.html>

## Changes in Faith in Action for this Fraternal Year

The Coronavirus outbreak has certainly altered a lot of our best laid plans. But this virus can also be an opportunity to try new things, reach out to new potential members or work with our parishes, communities, and families in a new way. When Fr. McGivney founded the Order, he knew there would be challenges. We should not shrink away from the challenges that face us, but instead embrace them and know that God is with us in our efforts.

This year Supreme is emphasizing the **Leave No Neighbor Behind** program to deal with those suffering the effects of COVID-19. Please consider implementing it in your parish.

To achieve the **Columbian Award**, you need to complete four activities in each of the four categories – Faith, Life, Family and Community, for a total of sixteen programs. But Supreme has decided to **eliminate the required programs** from each category that they had in the past. In their minds, even if a council cannot complete a required program, they should still get credit if they do plenty of other work in that area. The Form SP-7 for the **Columbian Award is due June 30th**.

**Featured Programs:** Added to these changes, Supreme is expanding the number of featured programs in each category. Remember that when you complete a featured program, with Supreme's requirements, you get two credits on the Columbian Award form instead of one for that activity.

## Service Program Awards

Each year the Missouri State Council hands out Service Program Awards to the councils that conduct the best activities in Faith, Family, Community and Life. But illustrating the fine programming from our councils in Missouri, multiple councils have then gone on to win Service Program Awards from Supreme in the past, something that is very rare in a single state jurisdiction. There is nothing stopping your council from being the next winner as everyone has a program or two that everyone takes an extra measure of pride in conducting. If your program is a large one or a small one or something that you put together to deal with a one-time concern in your parish community, you can submit it for a program award. We have had winners with a variety of programs in the past.

But to be considered, you must first fill out an application (#STSP), which you can find either on the Missouri State Council or Supreme Council websites. **Entries must be submitted to the State Program Director by March 15, 2021.**

EVERY PROGRAM REPRESENTS A MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT  
OPPORTUNITY