

## *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 news letter.
- ADOPT-A-SEMINARIAN:** We encourage every council/assembly to “Adopt” a seminarian, preferably a Seminarian of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. To adopt a seminarian from the Diocese of Pittsburgh, contact myself or the Diocesan Director of Vocations. We will assign a seminarian to your council/assembly. You will be given his name, his seminary address, his date of birth and a few items of information on his schooling and background. You will decide how much you want to be involved with your particular seminarian. Remember with over seventy councils and twelve assemblies in the diocese, and approximately 30 + seminarians, it is possible that each seminarian may be “adopted” by two or 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.
- R.S.V.P. :** Consider supporting him through the Supreme Council’s “**RSVP**” (Refund Support Vocations Program) This program refunds \$100.00 for every \$500.00 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, December, March & late May.  
Or, you can send them on a Semi-annual; or Annual basis.  
More details can be found in the Vocations Handbook #1942-00 provided in your “Surge with Service” packet or from Supreme Council.
- 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 provided with the “Surge with Service” packet.
- 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 better acclimate you and the students with 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 - **Joseph A. Cummings, PSD**  
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