



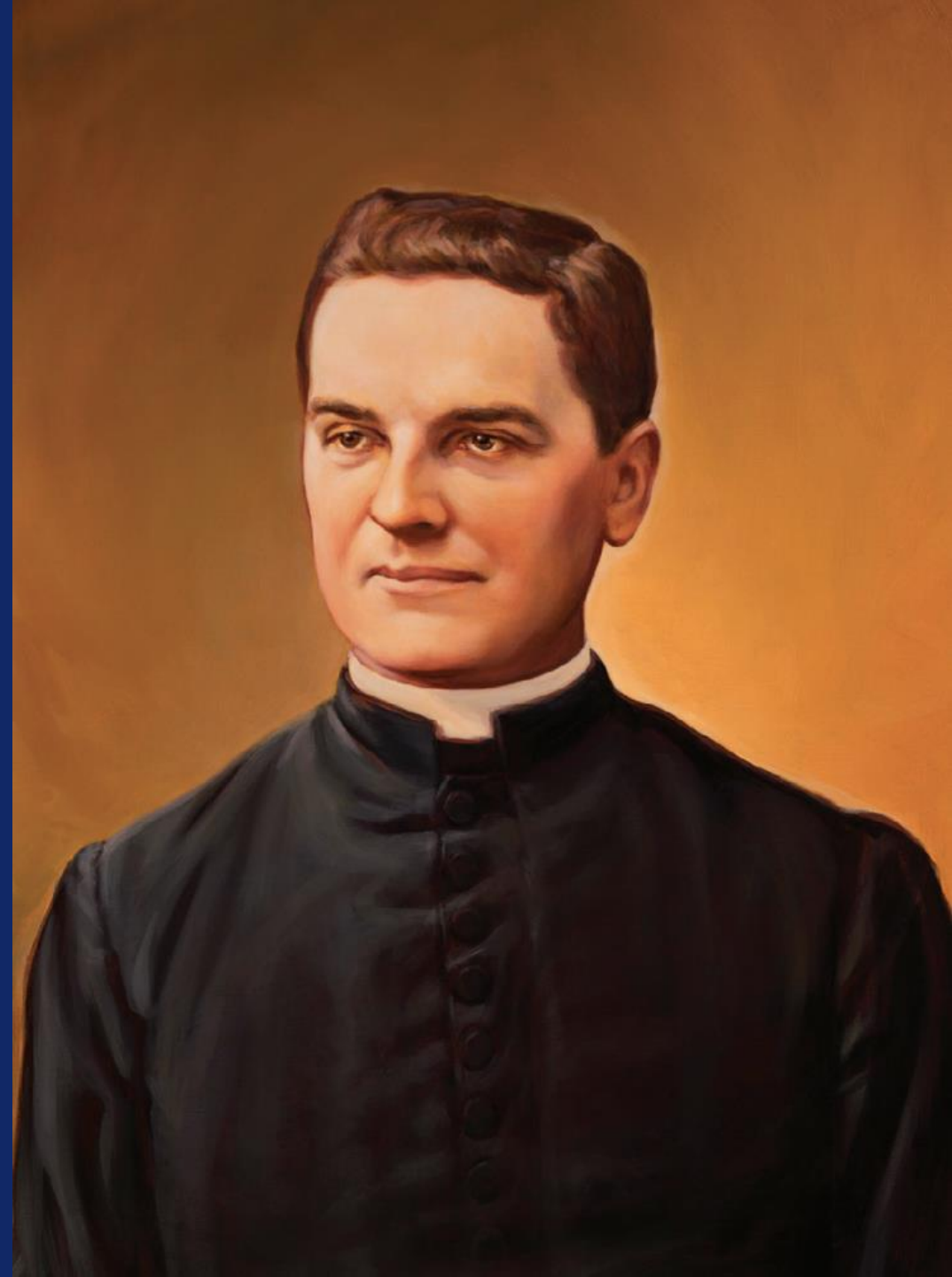
**Knights of
Columbus®**

Council Preparations for Advent and Christmas

October 17, 2024

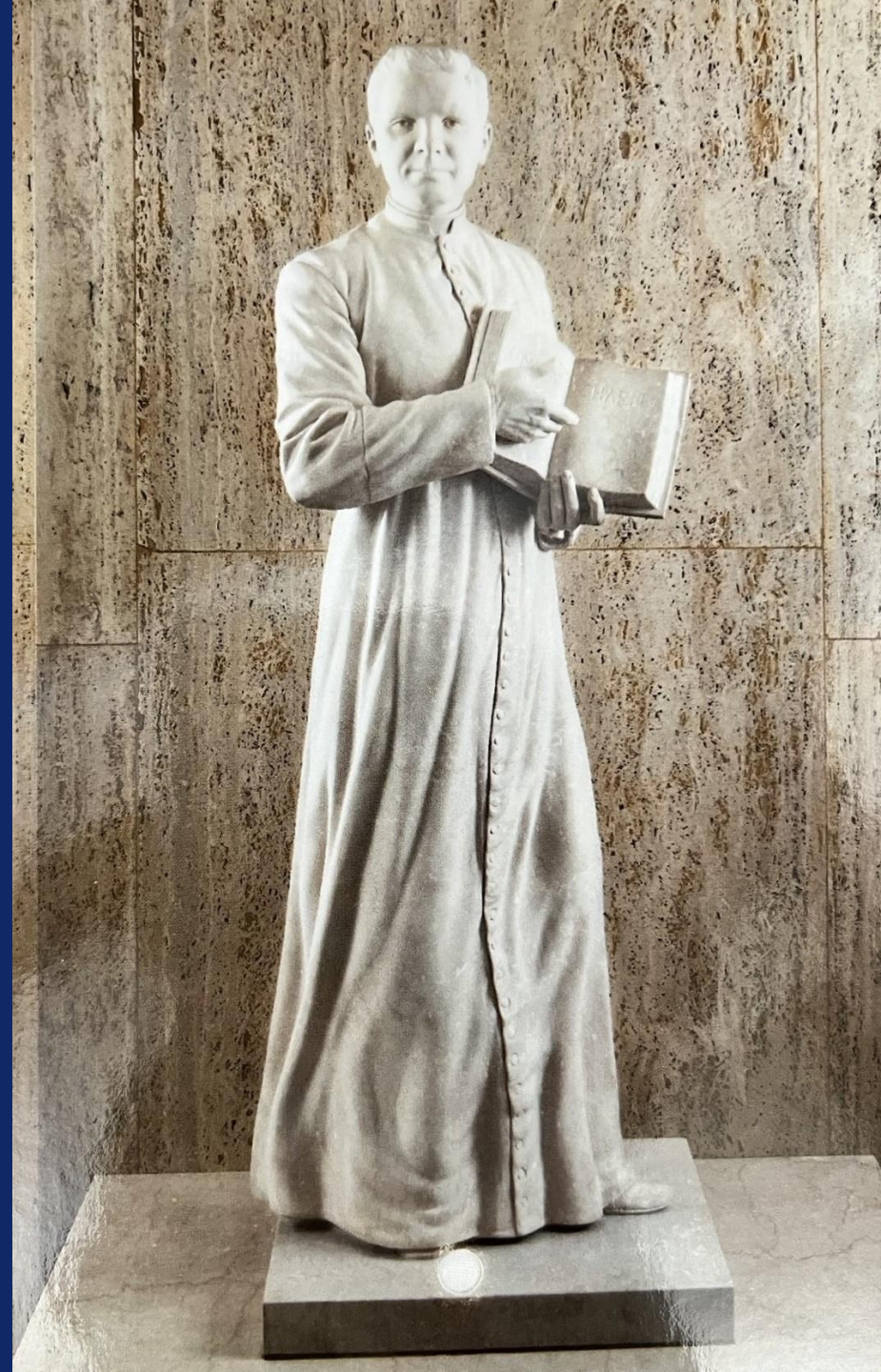
Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

God, Our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church.



Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Agenda

- 1. Working with Your Pastor**
- 2. Living Your Faith**
- 3. Putting Your Faith into Action**
- 4. Ideas for Parish and Community Involvement**
- 5. Becoming Fishers of Men**
- 6. Q & A**



Poll #1

Does your council have a flagship Advent or Christmas program?



1

Working with Your Pastor



Working with your Pastor

- **Planning begins by meeting with your pastor**
- **All programs involving the parish need his blessing**
- **Solicit his opinion on programs outside of the parish**
- **Ask where the council can help**



2

Living Your Faith



Advent – A Time for Hope and Renewal

- Time of preparation for Christmas
- The beginning of the Liturgical Year
- Beginning of the Jubilee Year of Hope (Dec. 24th)



***Sons in the Son* – Consecration to Our Lady of Guadalupe**

- 40 Days of Reflection
 - Nov. 2 – Dec. 12
- Focused on restoring our identity as sons of God the Father
- Culminates with a Consecration to Our Lady of Guadalupe



Poll #2

**Does your council do something for the
feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe?**



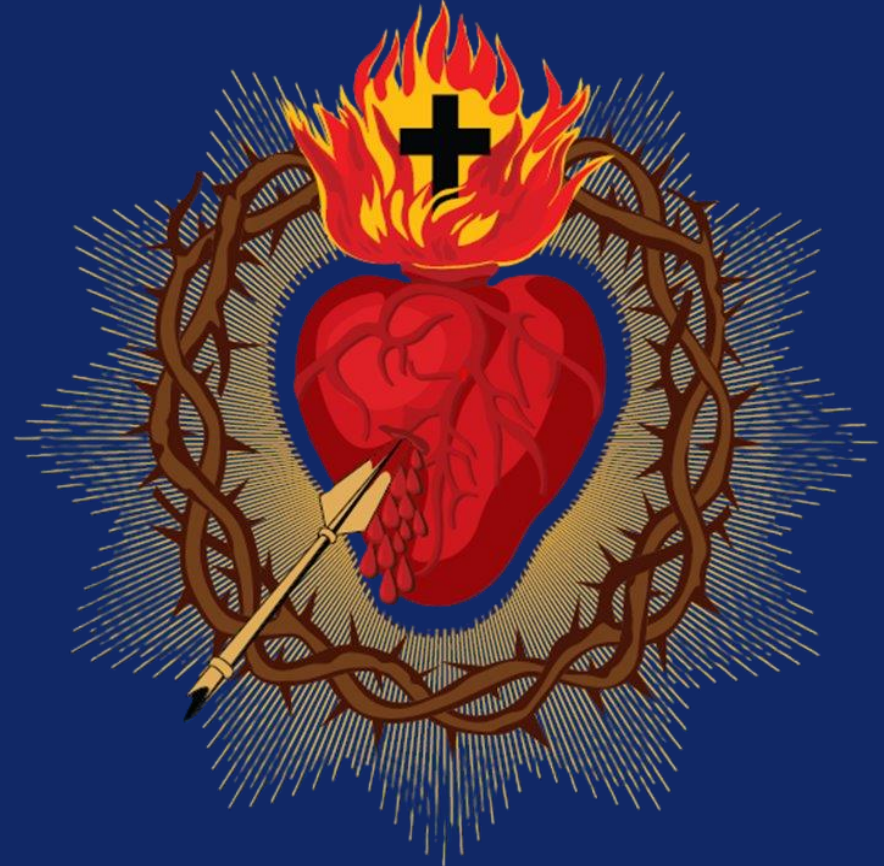
Our Lady of Guadalupe

- Feast Day December 12, 2024
- Procession
 - Dancing
 - Music
- Mass
- Food Booths



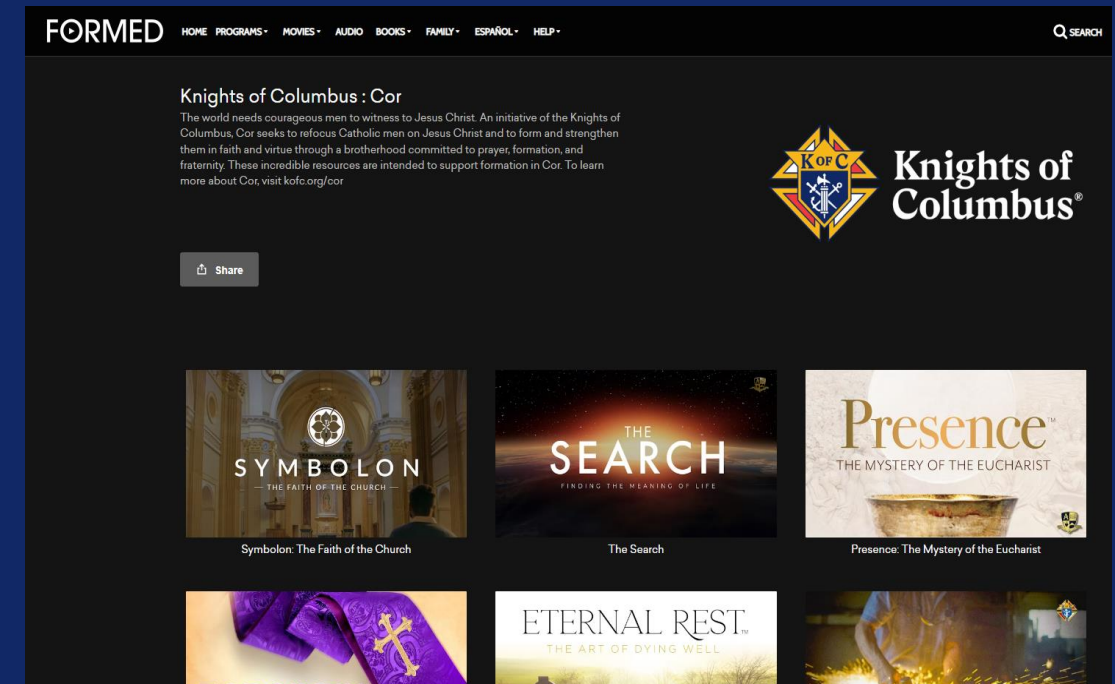
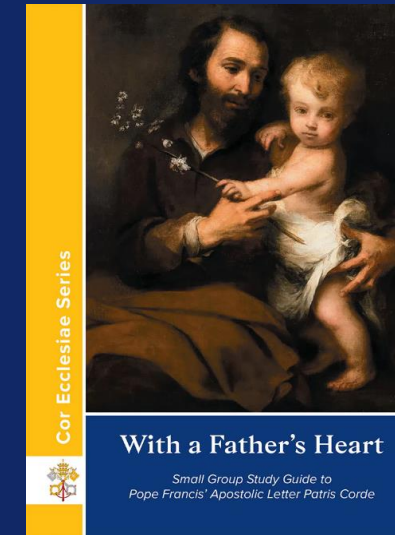
***Cor* in Advent**

- Start *Cor* this Advent!
- Keep it simple
- Start-up resources at www.kofc.org/cor
- Additional *Cor* content available through Catholic Information Service



Resources for Advent

- Formation and Prayer Resources from CIS
 - *With a Father's Heart*
 - Holy Hour Resources
 - *Men of the Word* Bible Study
- Use FORMED during *Cor*



3

Putting Your Faith into Action





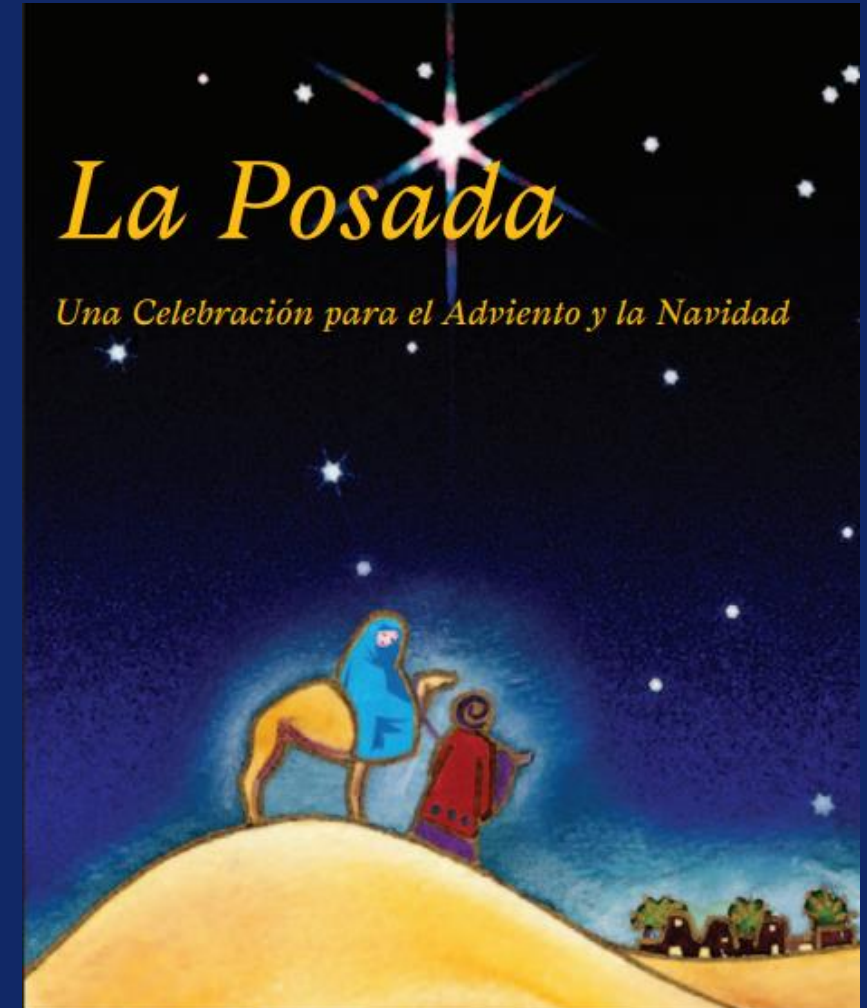
KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS



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Columbus

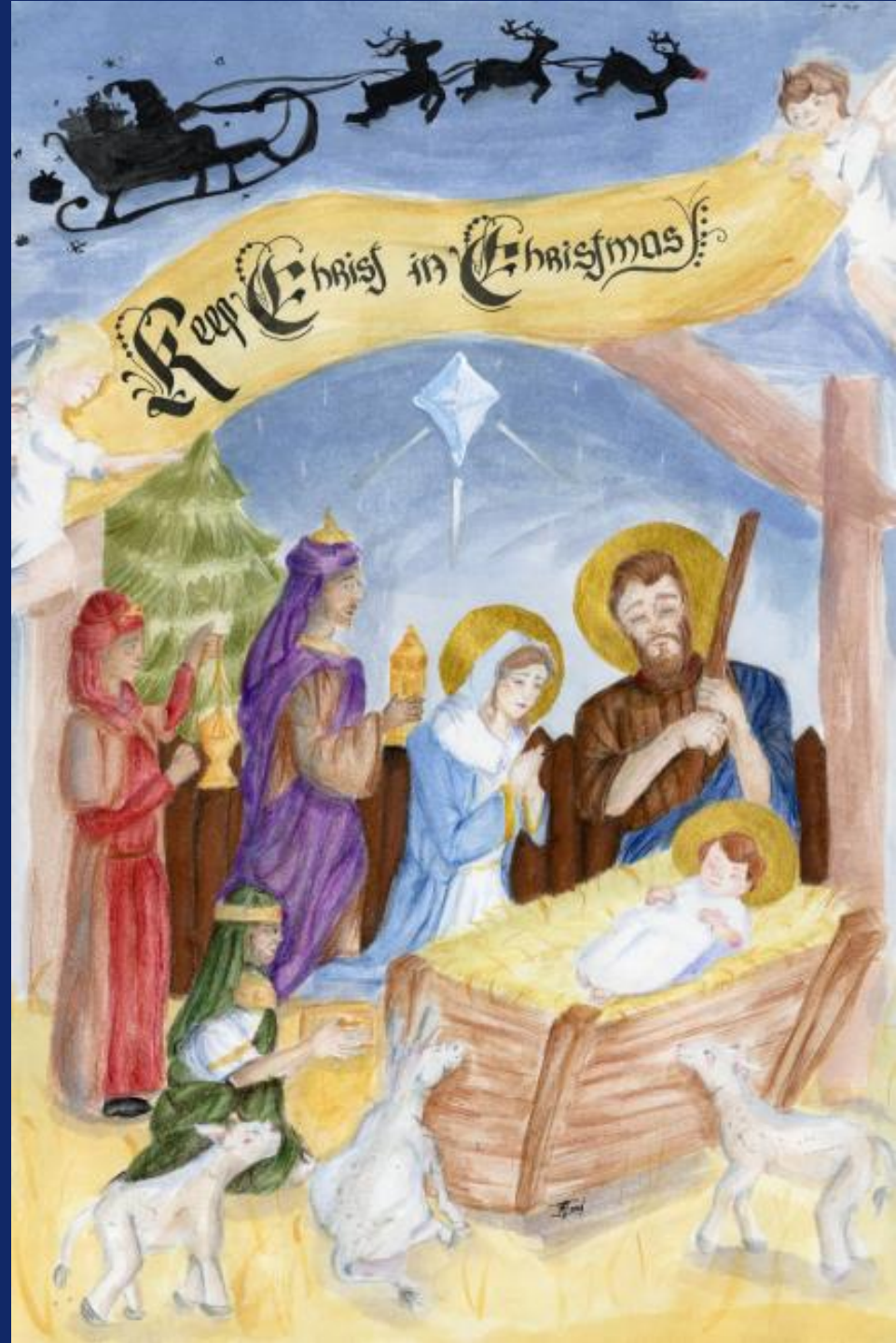
Journey to the Inn: La Posada

- Reenact the story of Christmas
- Involves performers, stations, hymns and prayer
- Adapted for 1-day use
- End with a celebration



Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

- Open to grades K-8
- Kit includes:
 - Guidebook, certificates, entry forms, promotional poster
- Judge by 12/31



Keep Christ in Christmas Cards

- Cards based on contest winners
- \$30 for 25 cards
- Perfect for member engagement
- Available at knightsgear.com



Spread the Light of Christ

- Organize a Christmas tree, church, or nativity lighting
 - Parish or Town Green
- Decorate the tree
- Ask your Pastor to bless the tree or creche
- Provide refreshments



Spread *the* Light *of* Christ!

The Knights of Columbus invites families to join them in a celebration to signify the birth of the Light of the World.



Date:

Time:

Place:

For Additional Information:

2757 10/21

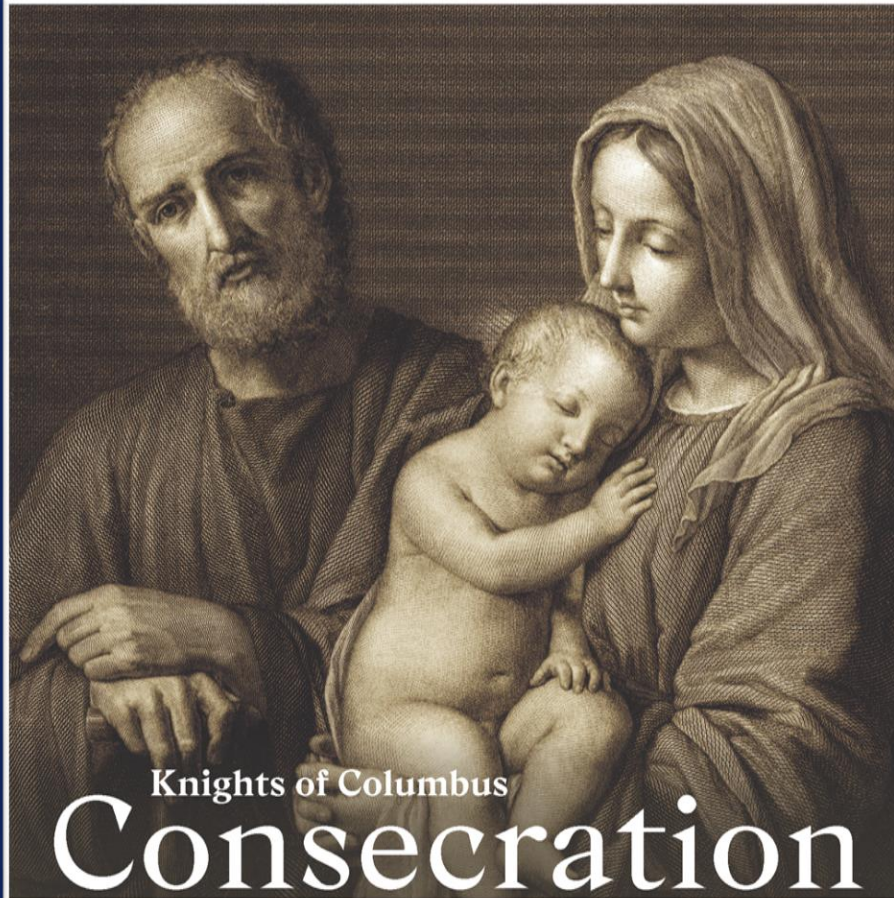
Box of Joy Program

- Fill packages with:
 - Toys
 - Clothing
 - School Supplies
 - Rosary
 - The story of Christmas
- Sent to poor children abroad
- Offered by Cross Catholic Outreach



Consecration to the Holy Family

- Organize for the families of the parish
- Provide prayer card and preparation ideas
- Host a social for families
- Feast Day: December 29, 2024




Knights of Columbus

Consecration to the Holy Family

Location: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____

Contact: _____



Faith in Action

Family

10/03/22

4

Ideas for Parish and Community Involvement



Who approves the Schedule?

- ✓ The Pastor
- ✓ The Grand Knight
- ✓ The Council



DECEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	2	3	4	5
8 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Celebrated)	10	11	12 Our Lady of Guadalupe
15 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	16	17	18	19
22 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 CHRISTMAS	26 St. Stephen's Day Boxing Day (CANADA)
29 THE HOLY FAMILY	30	31 New Year's Eve Council Catholic Citizenship Essays DUE	1	2

Involve Prospects

- Engagement
 - Knights Duties
 - Families
- Benefits
 - Vision / Mission
 - Making a difference
 - They may get the call



Holy Hour

- **Community Event**
 - Adoration
 - Rosary
- **Pre/Post another event**



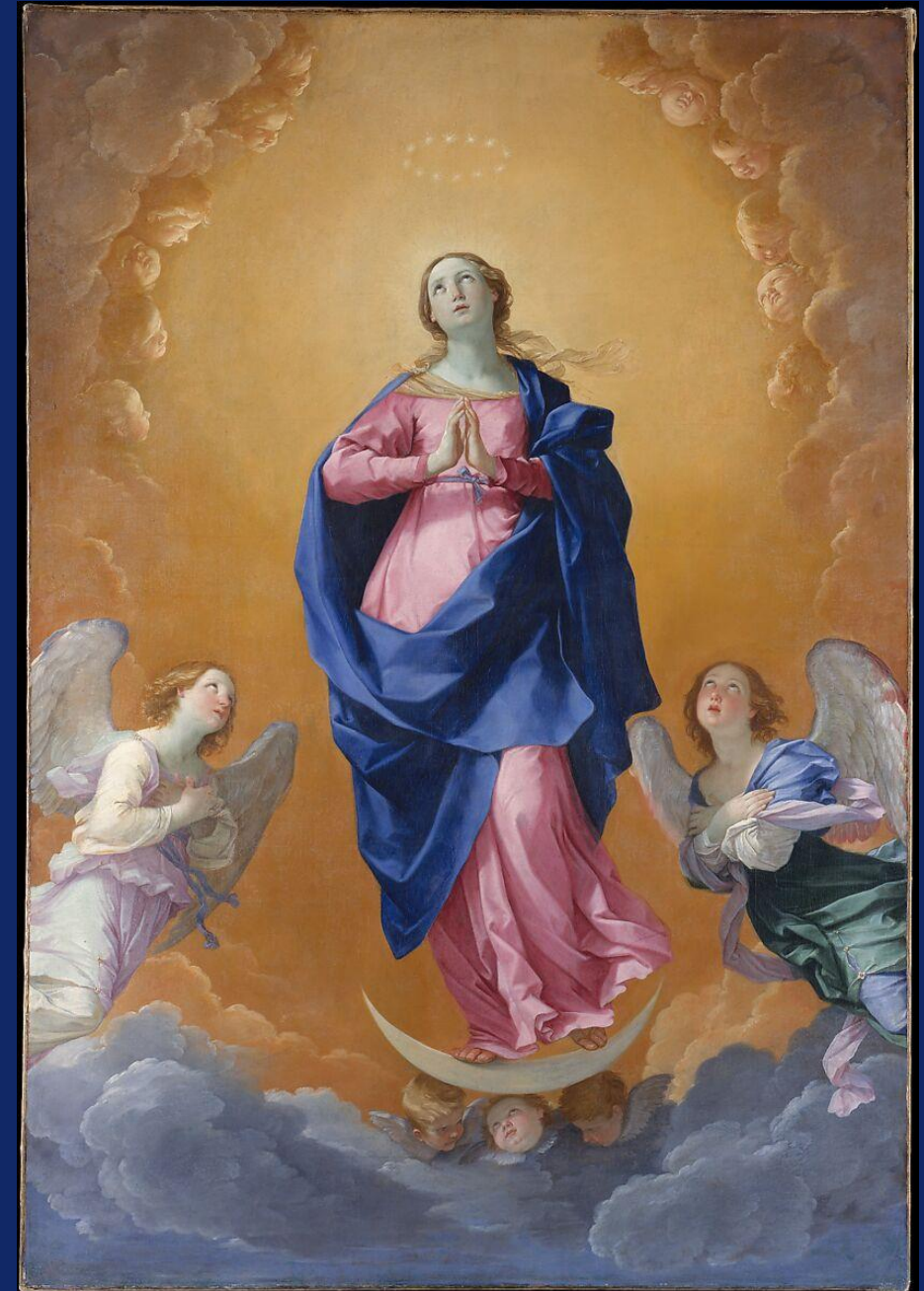
Rosary

- Daily in December
 - Church/Chapel
 - Virtual
- Led by non-Knights
- Duty of a Knight



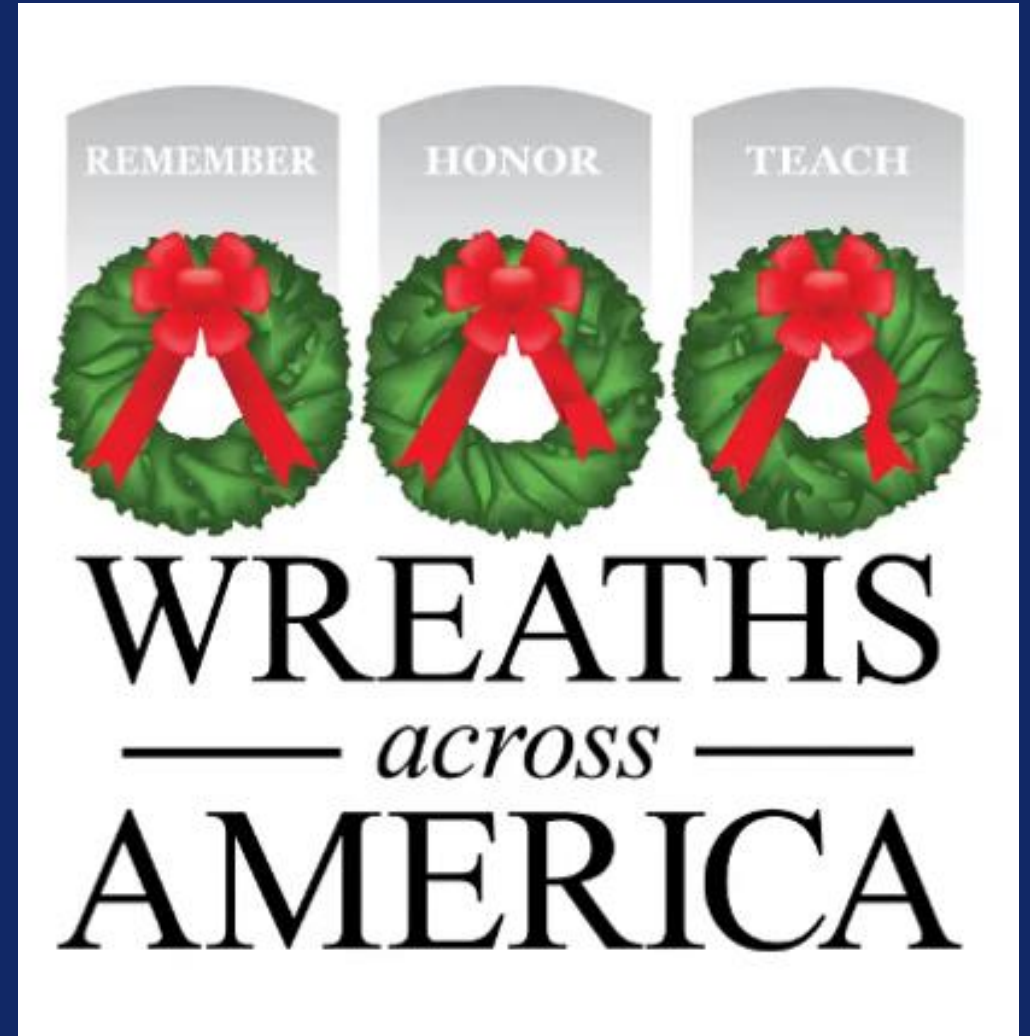
Immaculate Conception

- **Feast Day**
 - Vigil Mass
 - Masses
- **Celebrated on December 9, 2024**
- **Knights can lead / support**



Wreaths Across America

- National Organization
 - December 14, 2024
 - Resources



Christmas Party

- Council Party
- Community Party
- Ministries Party



Other Program Ideas



Giving Tree



Visit from St. Nicholas



Caroling



**KCIC Billboards
& Yard Signs**



Fundraising
KCIC Magnets, Christmas
Trees, Ornaments



**Nativity
Displays**



Knights Brighten Christmas with Toy Drives



5

Becoming Fishers of Men



Extending the Invitation

- 59% of Catholic Men would join a Catholic men's organization if asked
- Attendance increases during Advent and Christmas
- Make sure you are visible
- Welcome everyone, but especially men
- Invite men and their families to your next activity



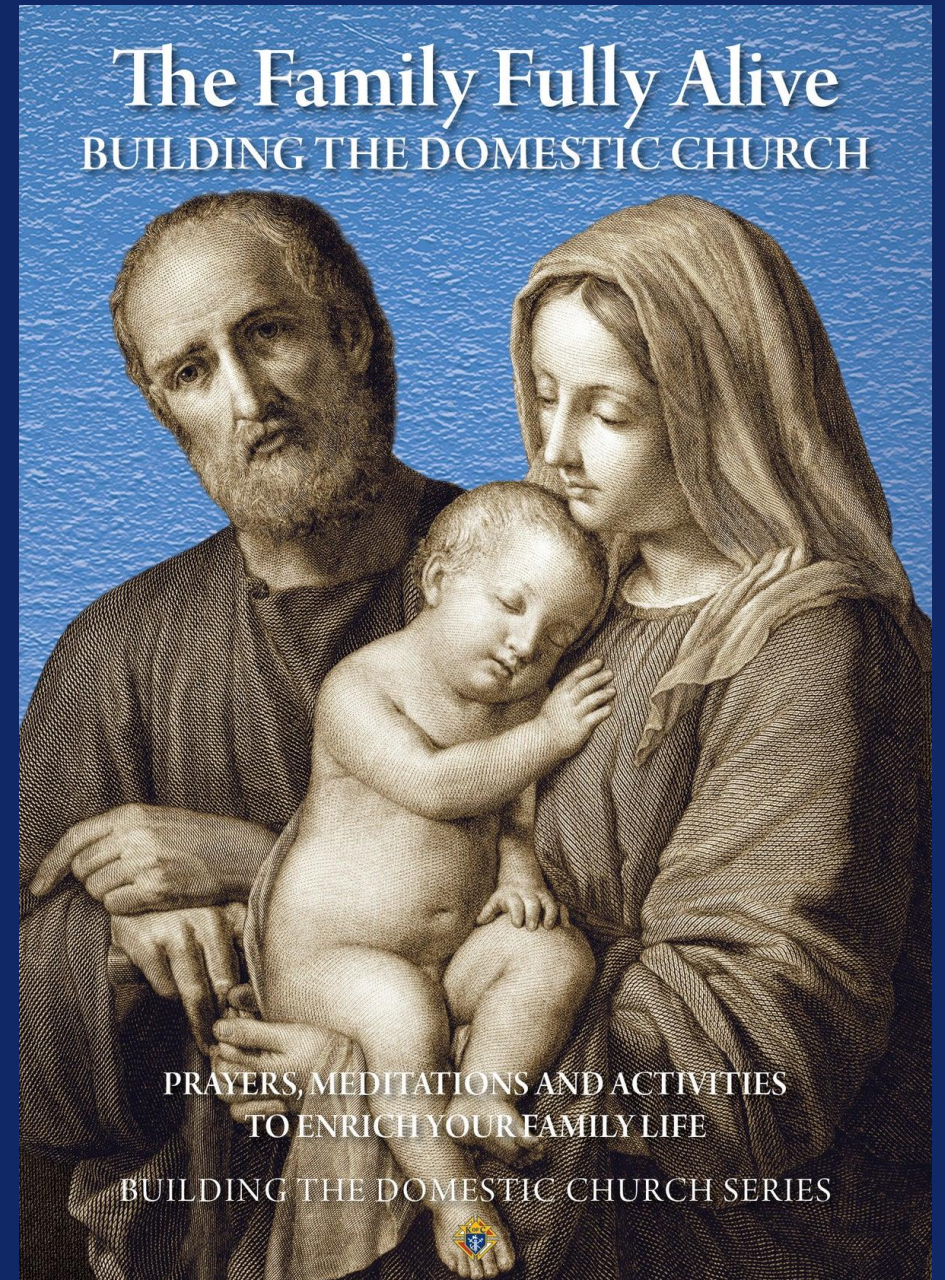
Poll #3

**Do you have a plan to invite non-members to
your holiday events?**



Family Fully Alive

- Present as a gift to fathers
- Booklet of monthly family devotions
- Starts with December
 - Provides family projects for Advent and Christmas



Questions?



Next Webinar

Midyear Checkup for Your Council

Thursday, November 21, 2024

8:00pm EST

Where should your council be midyear?

- **Best Practices**
- **Common Issues & Challenges**
 - **Outline for Success**



Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.

Be our protection against the
wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him,
we humbly pray,
and do thou,

O Prince of the Heavenly Hosts,
by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan,
and all the evil spirits
who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.





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Columbus®**

Thank You!

Vivat Jesus!