

# Quinceañera Support

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## Overview

The Quinceañera Support program encourages councils to support the quinceañera celebrations of the families in their parish. A quinceañera, common in Hispanic cultures, celebrates a 15-year-old young woman's passage from childhood to adulthood, thanks God for the blessing of her life and asks for His blessing going forward. Councils can serve as a part of this important milestone by providing resources, manpower and general support for the celebration and related prayer services or thanksgiving Mass. Knights can carry out their duties to form families and support their parishes by providing assistance with this formative aspect of young women's spiritual lives, especially by offering Our Lady as a role model.

## Featured Program Requirements

- *For two program credits toward the Columbian Award* – provide support for a quinceañera celebration in your parish.

## Action Steps

1. Working with your pastor, develop a plan to serve the young women and their families who are interested in a quinceañera celebration. You can share the *Quinceañera Support Brochure* (#11916) with your pastor and council to give them an idea of what the program entails.
2. Consider the following ways to provide support:
  - Provide prayer cards to be used during the celebration, prayer service, Mass or daily, such as the *Young Woman's Prayer* (#11917) and *Quinceañera Prayer of Thanksgiving* (#11918).
  - Suggest that the pastor give special blessings for quinceañeras, such as the *Order of Blessings on the Fifteenth Birthday* which can be found in the *Book of Blessings*. Dioceses may also have other liturgical resources and guidelines.
  - Donate small gifts, such as rosaries, flowers, medals, or other religious items.
  - Help with preparations for the celebration or prayer service, such as food preparation, decorations, music and setup and breakdown of the event.
  - Support any formation, preparation, or catechetical programs related to quinceañeras offered by the parish or diocese.
  - Distribute formation resources (found on Supplies Online) such as:
    - *The Woman Who Changed the Face of a Hemisphere* (#4752)
    - *The Magnificat* (#4753)
    - *Mary, The Mother of God booklet* (#324)
    - *A Guide to Praying the Rosary* (#4772)
    - *Rosary to Our Lady of Guadalupe* (#11879).
    - *God's Plan for Love and Marriage* (#333)
    - *Lectio Divina Trifold* (#11652)
    - *First Steps on the Little Way of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux* (#307)
  - Ask whether 4<sup>th</sup> Degree participation in the celebration or ceremony is desired.



3. Build public interest for the program! Promote the Quinceañera Support program in your parish and larger community through a variety of efforts:
  - Prominently display promotional posters at the high-traffic areas of the parish.
  - If running a volunteer event, post a signup sheet in the parish hall or create a QR code with registration.
  - Bulletin and pulpit announcements.
  - Post on your council and parish website / social media pages.
4. To gain credit for your program, complete the associated reporting forms.
  - Immediately after your event is finished, complete the [\*Fraternal Programs Report Form\*](#) (#10784)
  - At the end of the fraternal year, complete the [\*Columbian Award Application\*](#) (#SP-7)

### **Resources**

1. #11916 – *Quinceañera Support Brochure*
2. #11917 – *Young Woman's Prayer – Prayer Card*
3. #11918 – *Quinceañera Prayer of Thanksgiving – Prayer Card*
4. #11879 – *Rosary to Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Booklet*