

Refund Support

Vocations Program (RSVP)

Overview

As the strong right arm of the church, Knights of Columbus are committed to providing moral, financial and spiritual support to our future priests and religious at all stages of their formation. Through this program, council and parish families will raise funds to support seminarians and religious postulants and novices in their area. For every \$500 given to an individual, the Supreme Council will refund the council or assembly \$100. The maximum refund a council or assembly can receive is \$400 per individual supported. Councils are also called to provide moral support and prayers for their success. For RSVP resources, visit www.kofc.org/rsvp.

Action Steps

1. Identify a program chairman to oversee all action steps and delegate tasks, as needed. If coordinating with the parish, confirm pastor approval with grand knight, and then set up subsequent parish ministry collaboration meetings.
2. Set an annual goal for your RSVP.
3. Conduct various events in your parish and community in order to reach your goal! Potential activities include:
 - On the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, ask the pastor to allow a second collection earmarked to support seminarians and religious postulants and novices through your council's RSVP efforts
 - Conduct a Vocations Breakfast after Masses on a given Sunday. Invite the seminarians, postulants and novices supported by your council to attend the event, meet the parish, participate in the celebration and pray together.
 - Conduct a Vocations Dinner following the breakfast blueprint outlined above
 - As a council, make a resolution to allocate a specific amount collected at various fundraisers for RSVP
4. Build public interest for your program! Promote each event in your parish and larger community through a variety of efforts:
 - Prominently display promotional posters
 - Bulletin announcements
 - Pulpit announcements
 - Post on your council and parish website / social media pages
5. On the day of each event, wear Knights of Columbus-branded apparel and have the council membership director set up a table with brochures and membership documents (including [Prospect Cards](#) #921A). Do not forget that this event is a recruiting opportunity!
6. Enlist a fellow Knight or community member to photograph the event.
7. In addition to financial support, councils are called to aid the individuals they support with moral and emotional support as well as prayers for their vocations and vocations throughout the church. This is a central aspect of RSVP and must be fulfilled in order to satisfy the program requirements. Providing such support is easy and can be accomplished through a variety of efforts:



- At the end of each council meeting or event, take a moment to remember the individuals you support and together recite the [*Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney*](#) (#10502) for their vocations and for vocations throughout the church
 - Invite the individuals you support to attend all council events, particularly fraternal activities (if applicable)
 - Send cards on major holidays (i.e., Easter, Christmas), holy days and their birthdays
 - Ask them how your council can best assist them throughout the year
 - Organize a Vocations Letter Initiative in which the council facilitates the writing of letters between youth and seminarians or men and women religious postulants and novices. You can learn more about the *Vocations Letter Initiative in the Vocations Handbook* (#1942).
8. Once your goal is reached, complete the associated reporting forms.
- Immediately after your program is finished, complete the [*RSVP Refund Application*](#) (#2863) and the [*Fraternal Programs Report Form*](#) (#10784)
 - At the end of the fraternal year, complete the [*Columbian Award Application*](#) (#SP-7)

Resources

1. #4688- [*Brochure*](#)
2. #2863- [*RSVP Refund Application*](#)
3. #10743- [*Vertical Poster*](#)
4. #1942- [*Vocations Handbook*](#)
5. #10502- [*Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney - Prayer Card*](#)

Program resources can be ordered by your grand knight, financial secretary and/or program director on Supplies Online via [Officers Online](#).

Link

www.kofc.org/rsvp