

MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

BISHOP'S BURSE

Each year at the state convention, the State Deputy presents the Bishops of our two Dioceses a check representing the contributions from our councils, throughout the state. This donation is used for the education of seminarians. A suggested contribution is \$1.00 per member, but any amount will be accepted. It is a small way of showing our support and the importance of priestly vocations to the Bishops, and it is hoped each council will be able to support this program. Contributions can be forwarded to the State Secretary prior to the state convention and should be reported on the form located in this book.

RESPECT LIFE FUND

Another voluntary contribution of a suggested \$1.00 per member can also be made to the State Council or contributed to a local pro-life group or project. Although voluntary, this donation can show the "respect life" attitude of our councils. If you contribute to the state council fund, please forward it prior to the state convention, to the state secretary. Your council may contribute locally or make contributions to both the state fund and locally. However you contribute, please forward information of the amount and to whom the contribution was made on the form in this book and forward that information to the State Secretary.

JANUARY 22

All Knights and families should be aware of the meaning of the January 22nd date, as that was the day the Supreme Court made it legal for abortions to be performed. Each year the State Right to Life organization has a program in Pierre on that date regarding that Supreme Court decision. Your council is encouraged to travel to Pierre to participate, or your council may want to do something in your own community on the same order.

ADOPT A SEMINARIAN

Each council is encouraged to adopt a seminarian. This adoption may take the form of monetary aid, letter writing by council members, prayers, holiday and birthday gifts, or a combination of any of the above. A list of seminarians for each diocese will be distributed when the current addresses are determined for the coming year. Your participation has been found in the past to be an encouragement to these men to continue their goal toward ordination. The Supreme council has an R.S.V.P. program to encourage councils to donate money to the seminarians and then rebate part of that donation back to the council. Details of this can be found in the Supreme council report forms booklet.

STATE CONVENTION

Although it is some time before the state convention, you may want to start planning for it. Watch the Crusader, the state website and the Directions newsletter for information about rooms, registrations and other details. You may want to start fund raisers early to make sure you have adequate funds to send delegates.

VOCATION PRAYER CARDS

Another vocation program is the printing and free distribution of vocation prayer cards by the state council. Local councils can request a number of these prayer cards that can be placed in church literature racks, misselletes, pew racks, CCD classes, etc. They might also be given to a neighboring parish even if there are no Knights in that parish. Requests can be made for these cards from the Church Activities Director.

ROSARY RECITATION

In order to encourage devotion to the Rosary and Mary, a resolution at a recent convention asked that each council open their meetings or at another time of the meeting with the recitation of at least one decade of the Rosary.

CEREMONIALS ASSESSMENT

At the 1990 state convention the delegates approved a resolution that would allow the state council to assess each council 75 cents times the number of members billed for per capita tax purposes. This excludes disabled, honorary, and honorary life from this assessment. This money is used to pay the expenses for the state second and third degree teams. This has seemed to be a good way for the councils not to have to worry about degree team expense and has been an economical way to pay those expenses. All councils can recover the assessment by having new members initiated each year. By doing this, their net expense for new members will be nil.

PER CAPITA TAX

The State Council's main source of operating money is the per capita tax. Again only members paying dues are included in the number used to calculate this tax of \$7.50. Disabled, honorary, and honorary life are excluded. \$2.50 for each inactive member in a council will be subtracted from the amount due the state council. Some of this amount is also used to pay for the Crusader. Each council's cooperation in promptly paying this when billed it will make the

operation of the State Council much smoother. The 1994 convention delegates set the per capita at \$7.50. It was raised to \$10.00 per billable member at the 2008 convention.

FOOTBALL SWEEPSTAKES

Another source of operating money is the football sweepstakes program. This has replaced the SPF ticket fund raiser. It is also used as a fund raiser for local councils because any council or assembly that participates receives a portion of the funds received. Unfortunately, not all councils have seen the importance of this program and choose not to participate. Every council must realize this is a fund raiser for the state and as such, every council has a responsibility to do what they can to make it a success. Every council must do their part to support the state council so there are enough funds available to operate.

FOUNDER'S DAY

A resolution passed at the 1995 convention in Yankton asked that all councils in South Dakota set aside the Sunday nearest the 29th of March every year as a day of prayer with fellow Knights and families to reflect on the alarming termination of pregnancies, the suffering of Holy Innocents, and the destruction of family leadership and values. This day is also the anniversary of the founding of the Knights of Columbus in 1882. It would be hoped that each council could be responsible for the various ministries of this yearly celebration as required by the pastor of their parish. It would also be a tribute to our founder, Fr. Michael McGivney, who is currently being considered for sainthood.

OCTOBER-RESPECT LIFE MONTH

The month of October is designated by the Church as Respect Life month. It would be appropriate for each council to conduct one or more activities during this month to show our support for all stages of life from conception to death.

CHRISTOPHER FUND

In order for the state council to fully utilize the income it receives from various sources, the State Council is participating with the Supreme Council in their Christopher Fund. The Supreme Council is allowing a State Council to deposit up to \$5.00 per member in a special interest paying fund. For each dollar of interest earned by this fund, the Supreme matches it with a dollar. For example if the interest earned is \$100 per year, the Supreme will return to the State Council \$200 thereby double the effective interest rate. A major stipulation is that the interest earned must be paid to non-profit charity each year. The State Council, at a convention in Yankton, approved a resolution to take the license plate fund money (\$1200) and made the South Dakota Special Olympics, a non-profit group, the beneficiary. Since then other contributions have been made to the fund. This has effectively doubled the interest on the license plate fund and benefited the South Dakota Special Olympics.