



United we can, divided we won't.



*Help your Council become fully alive in Christ!  
Take an amazing journey into small group fellowship, formation, and discipleship.*

As Councils we can do more to help men travel the right path...

**10%** On average, only 1 out of 10 Knights actively participate in their Council's activities and programs.



"We can dramatically improve our membership experience by rethinking why we gather and how we utilize our member's precious time."

Bringing brothers together...

How to improve the Council model:

**Step 1.** Divide the council into small groups for stronger fraternal bonding and greater flexibility for regular assembly. (Allow them to arrange their own get together scheduling for convenience)

**Step 2.** Have each group pick a group leader who will organize the regular activities and act as a liaison to the Council's leadership team.

**Step 3.** Provide the group with a selection of social activities, organized prayer sessions, retreats, group pilgrimages, faith formation studies and ask them to choose several for the upcoming months.

**Step 4.** Provide the small groups with the Council's fraternal activities calendar for the year and ask them to sign up as a group for one or more of the programs or events.

**Step 5.** Ask each group to invite 2 men from the parish and 2 men from the community to join the group in their various activities and then invite them to join the Church and the Order.

## Small Group Fellowship



...to strengthen our families...

**Small Group Fellowship (SGF)** will allow active members to work with the Council roster to try to inspire inactive members to participate in one of the many ongoing group level and Council level projects.

The group will start off with simple social fellowship activities and brief organized prayer sessions. Groups may choose to play sports, take turns hosting family pot luck dinners, go on retreats or even take out a priest for a "theology on tap" evening.

Group gatherings can be early in the morning, later into the evenings, on weekends or weekdays, once a month or even once a week! It's up to the group to create a flexible timetable that works for the maximum number of participants. Groups are also encouraged to regularly include full family participation as often as they can!

When a group reaches a certain size it will be encouraged to split into two groups in order to remain close knit and encourage continued growth. *(Newly formed groups will begin by reviewing the 12 week Into the Breach video program so all men joining can experience this life changing initiative.)*

## Small Group Faith Formation



...to grow in our faith...

**Small Group Faith Formation (SGFF)** will help members grow stronger in their faith and help them improve their spiritual dexterity. Many of our brothers struggle with seeing and understanding the full beauty and mystery of our Church. Formation studies can help fill the gap that prevents many men from becoming fully alive in Christ.

Each group will participate in at least two faith formation studies during the fraternal year (one every six months). The first study will be the Knights of Columbus Into the Breach study program lasting 12 sessions. All future studies will be selected by the group under the supervision of the Pastor.

Growth through evangelization.



Members of each group will be asked to invite non-Knights from the parish to join in group fellowship, faith formation and discipleship activities.



Invitations should also be extended to non-practicing Catholics and other men (friends, family co-workers) who do not attend church. All men are welcome!

## Small Group Discipleship



...to serve Christ our King!

**Small Group Discipleship (SGD)** will help members fulfill their baptismal calling to worship God, spread the Gospel and serve the poor. Only by carrying the full love of Christ and the fruits of the Eucharist out into the world do we fully come into communion with him in both body and blood.

Members will actively reach out to those most in need or Christ's healing love. Friends, family and others will be personally invited to discover Christ in the liturgy, scripture and through charitable works. (Projects many include food drives, coats for kids, intellectual disabilities programs, international christian relief, missionary projects, etc.)

Worship and prayer is key!



Prayer must be made a priority in the life of every man so be sure to include prayer in every element of group activity. Group prayer will invite Christ into all we do!



Two members from each group will participate in regular holy hours before the blessed sacrament. Prayers and petitions will be offered up to the Lord for the good of Mother Church, Religious and the Order.

# Virtual Community Fellowship



## ... let's leave no man behind!

**Virtual Community Fellowship (VCF)** will allow members who cannot regularly or physically participate in Council activities to stay engaged in their faith and parish life.

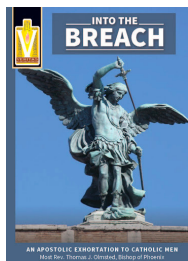
Through various electronic communication mediums, members will receive continuous information about the Order's initiatives and the Council's local activities.

On-line formation programs will be extended to these virtually active members to help them grow in faith alongside their brother Knights engaged in small group programs.

## Many on-line resources are available to members now!



ONLINE



# Tips for integrating Small Groups into your Council.

Including Small Group Fellowship within your Council will help improve member participation. Regular meeting agendas can be easily modified to incorporate this new layer of organization and activity.

1. When creating small groups be sure to assign a group leader who will act as the liaison between small group members and the Council leadership team. The group leader will organize their group's fellowship, formation and discipleship activities. The group leader will also be responsible for ensuring group members are continuously notified of all group and Council level activities.

2. Ensure that the pastor/chaplain visits with each small group over the fraternal year to help strengthen the pastoral bond with each member.

3. Have Council committee chairs (faith, life, community, family) work directly with the small group leaders to assign programs and also recruit for special events and activities.

4. Establish growth goals for each small group that includes recruiting non-active members, non-Knights parishioners and men who do not currently practice their faith.

5. Encourage growing groups to divide into two smaller groups once they reach a certain size to ensure strong bonds are formed between group members.

6. Incorporate faith formation materials for your small groups into your Council's budget each year. Providing the materials at no cost (if able) will improve your membership R.O.I.

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