

**Knights of Columbus Alberta-Northwest Territories
Formation Program-February-2020
“When the Son of Man comes in His glory and all the angels with Him...
Final Judgement, (Mt. 25, 31)”**

Opening Prayer

Lord, teach us to pray:
“Our Father...”

The Reading

(To be read by the Leader)

Final Judgement, (Mt. 25, 31)

Brothers, last month we looked at the big picture of Faith in Action. We were invited to look back at the previous year, to evaluate and then to look forward at how we could move forward effectively in implementing the Faith in Action program. We are using chapter twenty-five of Matthews Gospel, the final judgement as a Scriptural reference because it reminds us that we have been blessed with many gifts and talents. At one point we will meet the Lord and share with Him how well we used and shared those gifts. This is not something to be fearful about. We are grateful for the Lord's goodness in our lives and in gratitude we share our Time, Talent and Treasure with others. Brothers, I have said this many times, the Knights of Columbus are a perfect vehicle for assisting us in sharing our Time and our Talent with others. This final four months of our Columbian year, we will look at the four pillars of Faith in Action individually. **Faith, Family, Community, and Life.** Each of these four pillars offers eight potential programs for a Council to participate in. Do we need to do them all? No. If we can accomplish four of the eight programs in the Columbian year in each of the four areas, we will qualify for the Columbian Award. Do we need to follow the exact blueprint offered by the Faith in Action Manual? No, to quote the manual; “The resources included in this guide and online are meant to serve as guidelines and are not meant to be prescriptive or exacting.” Brothers we have been offered the framework or outline of the Faith in Action model, but we are all unique Councils, with a very diverse set of talents, needs and opportunities and goals.

The Reflection

(To be read by the Leader)

In my life as a priest one of the things that has assisted me on my mission, is the legwork done by others. For example; one of the things our State Deputy Brother Vince has asked me to do, is put together a “**Novena for Life**” that we can use as a novena in the nine day leadup to our annual March for Life on May fourteenth of this year. Will I use my own ideas and skill set to develop this Novena? Yes, but not before I see what many pro-life organizations, including the Knights of Columbus have already created. In other words, Brothers, we do not need to reinvent the wheel for activities proposed under the different pillars of Faith in Action. What we can do is look at the Knights guide to see what recommended best practices are and then implement the activity in a way that we believe will best meet the needs of our Parish, Families and Community at large.

My experience at least, is that at times we do not feel qualified, or feel we have the aptitude for a proposed activity. This is why, it is great to have a framework provided as a start point. Typically, once one gets their feet into the shallow end of the pool and sees that this is not so scary after all, the ideas, the initiatives and yes, the volunteers start to fall into place. The Faith in Action program activities provide many opportunities to implement different ideas, perspectives, and skill sets of our council membership into a particular activity. The framework is there, use all of it or part of it, but the bottom line is this; it is a bit like building an Ikea piece of furniture. If you follow the instructions, you will eventually succeed. If you think you know better than Ikea, you may be in for a frustrating afternoon.

Finally, Brothers, the essential element and key to your success in making these activities present and successful in your Councils, Families, Parish and your Community is this. You need to pray about and for the activity. You need to ask the Lord in humility to show you how to move forward, ask Him to inspire you with ideas, courage and fortitude. If you do this consistently along with your team, individually and communally, you will succeed, you will prevail. Brothers, our Lord has blessed each of us with

Reflection Continued

much in the way of talents and blessings. If we try to go it alone without involving the giver of all that is good, we will fall short of our potential for sure. We are limited but God is not. It is fair to say the Fr. McGivney, in his wildest dreams, did not envision an organization of the magnitude of the Knights of Columbus evolving out of his desire to care for the widows and the orphans of the late nineteenth century. Fr. McGivney depended on the Lord, brothers we must depend on the Lord as well. We must work like it all depends on us and we must pray like it all depends on the Lord; because it does. Next month, pillar number one, **Faith**.

When the Son of Man comes in His glory and all the angels with Him... (Mt. 25, 31)

Meditation Period

(The Leader now invites the members to spend a few moments in silent reflection, as the above text is not meant to be a ready-made answer but a starter for personal reflection on the theme.)

Fraternal Sharing

(The leader now invites the members to share with their Brother Knights any relevant thoughts that came to them during the meditation period.)

Closing Prayer

(Recited by all)

Let us pray:

“Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen