**Prayers in the Pew Pulpit Announcement (for KofC)**

Dear fellow parishioners,

Surveys of Catholic practices indicate that only 21% of Catholics attend Mass every week, and only about 45% attend once a month – and these studies were done before the onset of COVID!

So, now that the pandemic is winding down, our Knights of Columbus council is rolling out **The Prayers in the Pew Program**, which begins this weekend.

In a nutshell, the program is aimed at spiritual renewal and getting back to basics.

We’re asking only two things of every registered parishioner of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parish:

**First: We’re asking you to make a commitment to GET TO MASS consistently and on time.**

I’m sure we all remember the Third Commandment, which is to “keep holy the Sabbath.” Obedience to God is the main reason for attending Mass every week.

So what do we mean by “on time”? On time means EARLY!

We’re asking that everyone commit to being a ***Parishioner in the Pew*** by making it to Mass 5 minutes early… every week.

And when you arrive early, you’ll find in your Pew, the official **Prayers in the Pew Card** with a careful selection of prayers you can learn and memorize. Those who already know them will get a good refresher course on basic prayers and those who have never learned them will see them every week on this card.

Above all, the card contains the beautiful “Prayer Before Mass” of St. Thomas Aquinas which will help to prepare your hearts and minds before Mass.

\*These Prayer Cards will remain in the Pews for this purpose.

Another aspect of this program will be our new Monthly Newsletter which will appear in the bulletin and will feature short teachings and explanations to get us back to the fundamentals of the faith.

**Secondly, our goal is to revitalize our Prayer Lives personally and across our families and communities, and to do that, we have a gift for you.**

After Mass today, we will hand out the official Prayers in the Pew **Family Edition,** which will be our gift for you to take home to your family.

In the Family Edition, you’ll find the prayers such as “Grace Before Meals,” “Morning and Evening Prayers”, “The Memorare” and many other traditional prayers that should be familiar to all Catholics.

*It seems like Catholics have a prayer for just about everything!*

Thank you for your attention to this announcement.

The Knights will be outside the doors of the Church today to give you the cards as you exit.

**See you out front!**

**Prayers in the Pew Bulletin Announcement  (Longer)**

The local Knights of Columbus council is sponsoring its **Parishioner in the Pew program** which aims to get people back to faithful weekly Mass attendance after the COVID disruptions. They have provided our parish with Prayers in the Pew Cards *in all the pews* as an incentive for people to come to Mass early and prepare themselves by prayer to worthily participate in Mass.

The Knights are also providing our parish with the Prayers in the Pew “Family Edition” cards *for families to take home* in order to make prayer more a part of their daily lives – in between Sundays. Each of these prayer cards will help us to make more firm commitments to our Sunday obligation and to revitalize our prayer lives. Those who wish more copies of these and others prayer cards can find them at [sitstandkneel.com](http://sitstandkneel.com), or can call the local Knights of Columbus representative, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Prayers in the Pew Bulletin Announcement   (Shorter)**

The local Knights of Columbus council is pleased to announce its **Parishioner in the Pew** **program** for our parish. It consists of permanent prayer cards placed in the pews of our church to encourage people to arrive early for Mass and prepare themselves to participate in Mass to the fullest extent. They also provide “Family Edition” prayer cards for families to take home in order to revitalize prayer in their daily lives – in between Sundays. Those who wish more copies of these and others prayer cards can find them at [sitstandkneel.com](http://sitstandkneel.com), or can call the local Knights of Columbus representative, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.