

TEACHER & PARENT INSTRUCTIONS
RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST 2011-12
Knights of Columbus, Calgary Chapter

Theme: Religious Vocations Awareness. Part of the school curriculum in religion and art.

Target Group: Grade 5 students, both girls and boys.

Purpose: To promote an early awareness of the priesthood and other religious life. i.e., what it is like and the purpose of choosing to become a priest, deacon, brother or sister and to display graphically their vision of what inspired them to choose their religious vocation.

Criteria:

1. A participant must be enrolled in Grade 5 in the schools within the Parish served by the local Knights of Columbus Council, as well as children registered in a home school program residing within the geographical boundaries established by the local Knights Council.
2. All entries should be done on **unlined** white 8-1/2" X 11" sized paper.
3. Entries should be neat, colored or shaded, and legible.
4. Limit of one entry per participant.
5. Must be original work, drawn by hand. Coloring is encouraged but is optional.
6. Entries should include a slogan. Following are some examples of ideas for slogans:
 - ❖ Priests, Deacons, Brothers, or Sisters: They need us. We need them.
 - ❖ Shine Through the Darkness
 - ❖ God is calling. Can you hear it?
 - ❖ Mary, Mother and model, help me to respond generously to the call.
 - ❖ Religious Vocations are everybody's business.

Original slogans are encouraged, and other ideas may be obtained from verses in the Bible.

7. Creativeness, uniqueness and meaningfulness are some aspects which judges will use to decide winners.
8. Participant's name, grade and school name **must** be clearly printed on the back of each entry (or in the case of a home schooled participant, their home mailing address and phone number).

There should be a selection of the best six posters in the School; three Boys and three girls. The school will turn over the six posters to the local Knights' representative. If resources exist, the school may scan (300X300 DPI) their best six posters and submit them to the local Knights representative, electronically. The local Knights Council will then judge the six received from every school and will select the best one and will submit it to the Knights of Columbus Alberta Office for the Stage 2 judging.

All entries submitted become the property of the Knights of Columbus. Winning entries will be used by the Knights of Columbus in the promotion of the religious vocations. Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) forms will need to be signed by the parents or legal guardians of the winners. Schools and Councils are encouraged to electronically scan the paper entries. Councils will return any original posters before the end of the school year so that the teacher can give them back to the student to share with their families.

Timelines:

1. Introduction of the program by local Knights to principals teachers no later than late January 2012
2. Participation in the contest by students can begin when the Grade 5 teacher feels they are ready.
3. **February 29, 2012 is the deadline for Grade 5 teachers** to submit the poster entries to the local Knights Council or Assembly.
4. **March 30, 2012 is the K of C local Councils' or Assemblies deadline**, for submission for Stage 2 competition.
5. Stage 2 (State) judging to take place mid-April, 2012. The State judges will select up to 10 posters for the South part of the jurisdiction and will award up to 5 first prize gifts and up to 5 second prize gifts. State first prize gifts will have a value of \$100, and second prize gifts will be worth \$50.
6. The local Knights will present the State level gifts to the students before the end of the school year.



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

"Let us pray that the seeds of the vocation that God sows in the hearts of the faithful will mature and bear fruits..." - Pope Benedict XVI.

Heavenly Father, bless the Diocese of Calgary with an abundance of holy and zealous priests, deacons, brothers and sisters. Give those you have called the special graces that their lives require. Form us all in the likeness of your Son so that in Him, with Him, and through Him we may love you more deeply and serve you more faithfully, always and everywhere. With Mary, we ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Resources for Religious Vocations Awareness:

The local Knights are not always able to directly coordinate guest speakers to come to the schools. Teachers, please contact your local Parish Office to discuss potential visits to the school by seminarians, priests, deacons, nuns or religious brothers or sisters, as schedules permit. Or look to other resources listed. Some excellent video clips are available for use in class rooms equipped with internet and audio visual capability.

1. The applicable School Division's Religious Education Supervisor.
2. Your local Parish youth minister, pastoral assistant, seminarian or priest.
3. Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary, Office of Vocations. Director: Father Myles Gaffney.
Phone: 403-245-2753, e-mail: mjgaffney@telusplanet.net website: <http://www.vocationoffice.com/index.html>
In the Calgary Diocesan Office for Vocations website, navigate to News>Links>
<http://www.foryourvocation.org> to view many other excellent resources and links.
4. The Knights of Columbus headquarters in New Haven, Connecticut, makes available vocations prayer cards, bookmarks, booklets and DVDs. Please keep in mind these materials may need to be ordered by the local K of C Council or Assembly and will take time to arrive.

If assistance is required within the Calgary K of C Chapter region for program resources, or any aspect of the Religious Vocations Awareness Poster Contest, send an e-mail with details of your request to John Leszkowicz at calgarychapterkc.vocations@gmail.com or call (403) 809-7928.