



The St. Joseph Worker
 Newsletter of
 St. Joseph of the Three Rivers Council
 #11550
 Knights of Columbus

Mission Statement
 To promote the Catholic values of all families and particularly the families of the membership of St. Joseph of the Three Rivers Council, through activities and assistance, and to proclaim the teaching of our Catholic faith while sharing our material wealth with those in need of our help.

Volume 30—Number 9—December 2024.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Chaplain | Fr. Jerry Hiland |
| Grand Knight | Mike Groh |
| Deputy Grand Knight | Ed Hoffrogge |
| Program Director | Steve Rodenbeck |
| Financial Secretary | John M. Hughes |
| Insurance Agent | Chad Muhlenkamp |
| | Assistant General Agent |
| | 513-377-7221 |
| District Deputy | Bill Johansen |
| Membership (Growth) | Jim Bischoff |
| Fourth Degree Navigator | Paul Blevins |

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | | |
|----------|------|--|
| December | 1st | First Sunday of Advent
Bengals game |
| December | 5th | Bingo 3 Rivers Nursing Home 7 |
| December | 6th | Feast of St. Nicholas |
| December | 9th | Holy Day of Obligation |
| December | 10th | Business Meeting |
| December | 14th | Ronald McDonald House 7 PM
Wreaths Across America at Noon |
| December | 17th | Christmas Party |
| December | 19th | Bengals game |
| December | 25th | Christmas |
| January | 1st | Happy New Year 2025 |
| January | 14th | Business Meeting |

Need a St. Joe K of C Shirt ?
Polo or Blue Dress shirt
Email: Paulbeck@zoomtown.com
Orders being taken for group order!

Christmas Dinner

It's time to register for the Annual St. Joseph K of C Christmas Dinner. It will be held again at the Miami Township Community Center on Tuesday, December 17th. Doors open at 6:00 PM, and buffet dinner begins about 6:45 PM. The meal is again catered by Sullivan's (roast beef, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans and tossed salad). Beverages and dessert provided by our Council. **Cost for the event is \$25 for adults, \$5 for children 6-17, and no charge for 5 and under.**

The event is open to all members, families, and friends. Prospective gentlemen are also welcomed. There will be gifts for all children age 13 and younger, and word is Santa Claus himself will make an entrance along with his loyal Elf assistant! They will be greeting all the children with gifts and candy canes. It's very important when making your reservations to tell us the age and gender of your children so we can provide an appropriate gift.

Reservations with payment can be mailed to : John Toerner, 3106 Citation Ln., North Bend, OH 45052. Make checks payable to St Joseph K of C Council 11550.

- You can also make your reservation by email or phone:
- Paul Leisring, leisring.paul@gmail.com 513.379.5554
 - Denny Murray, murraydenny@gmail.com 513.314.1853
 - John Toerner, toerner4@fuse.net 513.659.1704

If registering by phone or email, please bring your cash or check to our next business meeting on December 10th.

Lectors Message

By Dan Warnock

'Tis the holiday season! Thanksgiving, one of my favorite holidays, has just passed, and now Christmas is on the horizon. It's a magical time of year, especially for kids, who eagerly anticipate Santa Claus bringing them gifts. It's also a season for learning the joy of giving, as children create heartfelt gifts through artwork, crafts made at school, and homemade Christmas cards for their loved ones.

But nestled between these two cherished holidays is a special day—December 6th, Ole St. Nick Day. For us, it was like a warm-up for the biggest day of all: Christmas!

Growing up in the Warnock household, my six siblings and I would hang our stockings on a clothesline strung along the stairway banister. Mom and Dad always reminded us that if we hadn't been good throughout the year, we might find a lump of coal in our stockings instead of treats. Fortunately, none of us ever received coal. It was a clever parenting strategy! Instead, on the morning of St. Nick Day, we'd wake up to find our stockings filled with tangerines, hard candy, a small toy, and always a large candy cane.

Oh, and I can't forget an important part of the tradition! On the night of December 5th, before heading to bed, we'd carefully place our wish lists in our stockings for Santa St. Nick to collect. It was our way of letting him know what we were hoping for, ..within reason, of course. Another cherished family tradition revolved around Christmas morning. As soon as the 6 AM church bells rang, we were finally allowed to go downstairs. We'd gather excitedly around the Christmas tree, which was piled high with gifts, and wait (not so patiently) for Mom and Dad, who were always the last to arrive. Once they joined us, the real fun began! Then, it was off to church for Christmas Mass—a beautiful reminder that Christ is truly the reason for the season.

Merry Christmas Everyone!!

St. Joe K of C donated \$250 to Tram food pantry .

Grand Knight's Message

By Mike Groh

Another Christmas season is upon us. A season filled with social gatherings, parties, and travel. Families have traditional things they like to do. When our children were still at home, we had many traditions we enjoyed together. These included the Cincinnati Zoo's Festival of Lights, Kings Island's Winterfest, a day downtown to see the Shillito elves, the CG&E trains, Provident Bank's Christmas Village and the Christmas displays in the Crew Tower lobby. With the in-laws we always headed to a nursing home to sing Christmas carols with the residents. Another Groh family favorite was heading out on a Saturday morning to a Christmas tree farm in search of the most perfect Christmas tree we could find. Christmas Eve was always at my in-laws and Christmas Day at my parents. Both of us have large families, so the family gatherings were loud and chaotic, but still gatherings that no one ever wanted to miss. Another tradition was heading home on Christmas Eve to find that Santa had arrived! To this day my kids still have no idea how we pulled this off since we were always together at Grandma's house. I'll never give away my secret!

Now that our parents are deceased and our kids are grown with families of their own, our traditions are evolving. We still go to the Christmas Tree farm to find the best tree, but now with multiple families. We still sing carols at a nursing home. We have new family gathering places for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, but the large family crowds, noise and chaos remain. Our grandkids love going to our council Christmas social to play and see Santa. In addition, each of our kids are developing new traditions with their families. It's a joy for me to watch these traditions develop and continue year to year. Traditions are wonderful, but always evolving. Enjoy them, cherish the moments and thank God for the memories!



Our Family Programs
By Donald G. Larrick

Be sure and save December 17th for our Annual Family Christmas Dinner. This year's dinner is at the Miami Township Community Center on Shady Lane. The doors open at 6:00 with dinner being served about 6:45. Santa will be stopping by with gifts for the children. Many THANKS to Paul Leisring, Denny Murray and John Turner for chairing this FUN event. Watch your email for more information and how to make reservations.



Bengals volunteers
By Jim Bicknell

I am happy to say Joachim Fischesser has agreed to be the St Joseph K of C Stadium Volunteer Coordinator for the 2025 season. Joachim has done an excellent job in every K of C position that he has volunteered for in the past. I have coordinated this fundraiser for about 8 years now and I cannot think of a better person to manage our stadium volunteers.

St Joseph K of C has raised over \$18,500 so far this season working at the stadium. This is the main source of our funding for our charitable donations. Beyond our charitable donations it helps us purchase food, drinks, etc. for our various activities. This is mainly due to a core group of volunteers that work every game unless they have a personal scheduling conflict. We are always looking for new volunteers so if you think you might be interested in working at the stadium contact myself or Joachim.

You can contact me, Jim Bicknell at:

jbicknell@zoomtow.com.

Our Faith Programs
By Ken Merk

I first want to thank Joachim Fischesser for his leadership in running the Faith program. I wish him success in running the Bengals game volunteers. I am sure many of you were as surprised as I was at how much Joachim was doing for the council when new volunteers were requested. Thank you for all you have done!

Thanks to Don Larrick, and Joachim for planning the Memorial Mass. Thanks to Ed Hoffrogge and John Dinger for preparing the food for the social afterwards. Thanks to Fr Jerry Hiland and to everyone who participated in the liturgy. It is a truly beautiful event.

Mark your calendars. The E6 Catholic Men's Conference at East Central High School is scheduled for Saturday February 22, 2025 from 8 AM to 3:30 PM. Keynote Speaker is Chris Stefanick, who you may have heard on Sacred Heart radio. It is always a worthwhile event.

As Faith Director, I will try to keep you informed of faith activities held within the Knights, in our parish family and elsewhere in the community. If you have any events you would like to publicize, let me know. Please be patient as I grow in this new position.

Football Craz Fundraiser
By Bob Sandhas

"A new bonus raffle in the Ohio Football Craz Sweepstakes. Members who sold six or more tickets will be entered into a special Ohio State Council raffle. 48 Knight's name and address have been forwarded to the OSC to be placed in a hopper for several \$100.00 checks. Drawing will be held at the State meeting in January 2025. Good Luck!!"

Winners	Week 1	
16 Kathy Fischesser Cleves - Cincinnati	11550 12635	138 \$20.00
-4 Ed Hoffrogge Cincinnati - Cincinnati	11550 12569	46 \$20.00
Week 2		
15 Doug Sand Cincinnati - Cincinnati	11550 78145	126 \$30.00
Week 3		
		none

From the Desk of the Financial Secretary

John Hughes

It's Annual Dues Time Again!

The Supreme Dues Notice will print on December 15th.

They will be mailed to members within 5 days of the notice.

Honorary Life members **will not** be assessed dues.

Members who sold 6 or more Football Crazy tickets **will not** be assessed the \$25.00 dues. Life members **will be** assessed only \$8.00 for dues.

Regular and Insured members **will be** assessed \$25.00 for dues.

The Council is asking you to contribute to our two assessments.

Listed on the dues notice is a request to additionally support the following:

\$5.00 for our annual Measure Up Program in support of Three Rivers and Rost schools.

\$3.00 for our Culture of Life Programs in support of Pregnancy Center West and Mater Filia.

I am still working on a revised "on-line" payment option of PayPal. More to come.

Membership Growth

Our current membership is:

129 Associate Members

46 Insured Members

2 Inactive

Of these members there are

33 Honorary Life Members

4 Honorary Members

44 Fourth Degree Members

St. Joseph K of C Council 11550 donated 24 new coats to Three Rivers school for students in need. Paul Beck delivers coats to Mark Ault Superintendent of schools.

This is the fourth year our St Joseph Council made this donation.

Our Programs

By Steve Rodenbeck, Program Director

As Program Director I congratulate my Council Brothers for your participation and involvement in our Council activities. Our Council is among the State leaders in Activities completed to date. As we approach the holidays we have a number of meaningful Programs which show our commitment to the principles of the Knights of Columbus.

The first week of December we will be conducting our Bingo Program at the Nursing Home and Don Larrick and his wife, Sharon, will have some holiday gifts for the residents.

On December 14, 2025 the Council will be hosting a Brunch at the Ronald McDonald House. There are a couple of spots open. The families staying at the House really appreciate the efforts of the various groups who help out, especially during the holidays.

The hope is we also receive the checks for the Measure Up Drive Program in short fashion and we will be making a presentation to the Margaret Rost School and the Three Rivers School District.

Our Social for the month of December will be our annual Christmas Party. John Toerner, Paul Leising and Denny Murray have been working to make this event a success.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and hope you are able to enjoy your families.

Vivat Jesus!



Our Financial Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report

By John Hughes and Carl Braun

\$ 63.00	Support Our Seminarians
\$ 38.00	Split the Pot
\$ 8,680.00	K of C State Rebate
\$ 2,664.76	Aramark Bengals Game
\$ 330.00	Donation
<u>\$ 2,772.29</u>	<u>Aramark Bengals Game</u>
\$ 14,548.05	Total Income for October

\$ 23.29	Steve Rodenbeck - Food Mtg
\$ 250.00	TRAM
\$ 215.88	InMotion Hosting
\$ 262.93	OSC - Per Capita Tax
\$ 15.53	Web Mason
\$ 31.05	GFS - September Social
\$ 75.00	We Bee Free - Brew Master Hats
\$ 106.03	Ed Hoffrogge - Sept. meeting food
\$ 494.76	Coats for Kids
\$ 19.98	InMotion
\$ 140.49	Papa Johns - Pizza for meeting
\$ 1,000.00	Mark Hoffman - Hurricane Relief
\$ 38.79	Dan Warnock / Drinks
\$ 8,680.00	OSC - Football Craze
<u>\$ 200.00</u>	<u>3 Rivers Community - Donation</u>
\$ 11,553.73	Total Expenses for October

The Financial Secretary is researching using more on-line dues collections and fundraising. To get an idea of how many members would be willing to pay by debit/credit card, and even receiving your 2025 dues notice by electronic email, please send a quick email or text message (to my phone) and advise who you are. If there is enough interest in moving into the next decade, please let me know so we have an idea of how much it would make your life easier. We are working with PayPal to be our provider. Phone number 513-574-1814
Email : jmhughes@fuse.net

Council Christmas Party

Will you consider a little time to the Council?

In the last few meetings and business meetings there have been several requests for people to step up and volunteer to help by either taking over as a chairperson or volunteering for an event. We are proud of our Council but believe we are wearing the same people out. A lot of our leadership hold more than one role and the same people seem to always be around. If you find yourself wanting to do more or you know you have the time, see where your talents could help out in our council. We have members who will be more than helpful in guiding your next adventure. If you have any questions see any of the leaders in our council. Also, go to our facebook page or website to get involved:

Website at: stjosephkofc.org

Facebook: "Knights of Columbus, Saint Joseph's North Bend".

The Council Christmas Dinner/Party will be held on Tuesday, December 17th at the Miami Township Community Center. Doors open at 6 PM, and the buffet dinner starts about 6:45 PM. The meal is catered by Sullivan's and will be roast beef, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans and tossed salad. Beverages and a dessert will be provided by our Council. There will be gifts for all children ages 13 and younger, and a special guest from the North Pole and his elf will be there to greet the children with the gifts. Cost for the evening is \$25 for adults, \$5 for children 6-17, with no charge for kids 5 and under. When you make your reservation please give us the full names, age, and gender of your children so we have appropriate gifts. Questions: call John Toerner 513.659.1704, or Paul Leisring 513.379.5554, or Denny Murray 513.314.1853. More details to follow.

Growth

As of last weekend, we are **33rd in the Order for the Circle of Honor**, with a Growth intake of 621 new Brother Knights with 31.05% of our goal of **2,000** new members for the fraternal year.

- Columbus Diocese is leading with 49.79% growth
- Cleveland is at 41.04%
- Steubenville is at 25.93%
- Youngstown is at 25.63%
- Cincinnati is at 24.70% and
- Toledo is at 19.39%

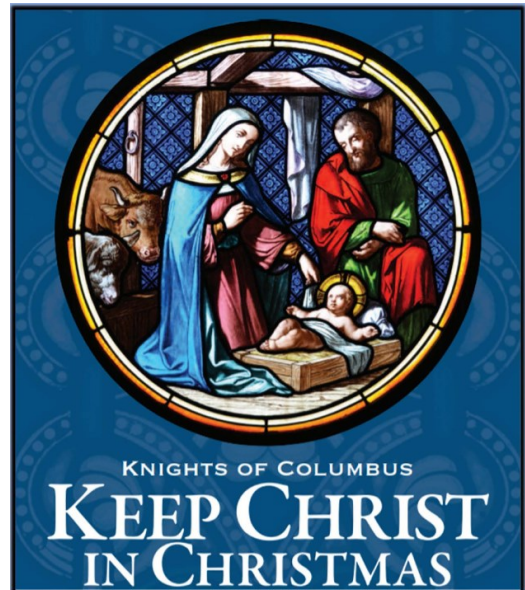
Ohio is first in the Midwest Territory and eighth in Division 1 states. We need to pick up the pace as we approach the end of the first six months of the fraternal year.

Fraternally,

Andrew J. Nuckols
State Growth Director



Keep Christ in Christmas



Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Just received this message from the archdiocese.

Dec 9, 2024: Holy Day of Obligation

As you know, in 2024, December 8 is the **Second Sunday** of Advent, so the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to **Monday, December 9**. **Previously**, when the DATE was transferred the obligation was abrogated. That will no longer be true.

Earlier this year, Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki, Chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance, wrote to the Holy See seeking clarification about the obligation to attend Mass when a holy day of obligation in Advent, Lent, or Easter falls on Sunday and the Solemnity is transferred to Monday. In a memo to the U.S. bishops dated **Thursday, October 10**, Bishop Paprocki communicated the Dicastery for Legislative Text's response: "the feast must be observed as a day of obligation on the day to which it is transferred." **In light of this new directive, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Monday, December 9, 2024 is to be observed as a holy day of obligation.**

Football Crazz

Financial Secretary Message:

Thank you to the 48 members who sold more than 6 football Crazz tickets.

Your dues of \$25.00 will be paid for 2025.

I ask that you consider paying the two assessments of \$8.00.



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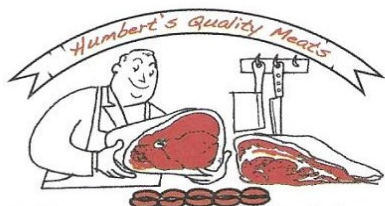
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Web Site / Kyle Dupler

Please visit our website at stjosephkofc.org

Send any comments or suggestions to webmaster@stjosephkofc.org



Fr. McGivney

Baseball's connection with the Knights of Columbus. Our meeting started with a quote from Sparky Anderson "Learn something new every day." Father McGivney played baseball. Babe Ruth was a Knight of Columbus. Jim O'Rourke who had the first hit in the new National League in 1876 was a Knight. Finally, by 1910, 18 World Series were managed by a coach who was a Knight.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Ross Lanter	Betty Burwinkel	Kathy Beebe	Cathy Davis	
Cheryl Bredestege	Tom Butz	Colin Doyan	Ron Roehrig	Ken Uhrig
Pray for cure of Alzheimer's	Active Military			

Ohio State Council "125th Anniversary" Challenge Coin

Members who recruit at least two new members into a council, if their membership number is on the application for membership will earn a Ohio State Council 125th Anniversary Challenge Coin.

Fast Start Council Challenge

All councils that achieve the below listed Growth goal; hold one (1) Fraternal Benefit Event; and file the *Service Program Personnel Report (Form #365)* will earn a 16 x 20 unframed print of Blessed Fr. McGivney Icon.

- Councils with fewer than 100 Members: 20% of Supreme Growth Goal by Sept. 30
- Councils with greater than 100 Members: 25% of Supreme Growth Goal by Sept. 30.

Fast Start 1st Quarter Council Challenge

The winning council in each diocese (Cincinnati, Columbus, Cleveland, Toledo, Steubenville, Youngstown) with the highest percentage Growth intake.