



The St. Joseph Worker

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

Volume 30—Number 11— February 2025.

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.

Chaplain	Fr. Jerry Hiland
Grand Knight	Mike Groh
Deputy Grand Knight	Ed Hoffrogge
Program Director	Steve Rodenbeck
Financial Secretary	John M. Hughes
Insurance Agent	Brien Hartung
Field Agent	937-540-0485
District Deputy	Bill Johansen
Membership (Growth)	Jim Bischoff
Fourth Degree Navigator	Paul Blevins

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February	1st	Bengal Volunteer Dinner– Farm
February	11th	Business Meeting
February	14th	Valentines Day
February	22nd	E-6 Conference @ East Central High School in St. Leon, Ind.
February	25th	Social Ladies Night
February	27th	Bingo 3 Rivers Nursing Home
March	5th	Ash Wednesday
March	8th/9th	Men's CHRP at Visitation
March	11th	Business Meeting
March	25th	Social All Parish Degree Program
March	27th	Bingo 3 Rivers Nursing Home
March	30th	30th Anniversary Celebration
April	8th	Business Meeting
April	22nd	Awards Presentation

Need a St. Joe K of C Shirt ?

Polo or Blue Dress shirt

Email: Paulbeck@zoomtown.com

Orders being taken for group order!

NEW E-Membership Enhancements!!

Great News! kofc.org/join has **TWO New Enhancements!**
UPDATED ONLINE REFERRAL CODE

First, the [Online Join Application](#) has been updated to make it easier for prospects to add an Agent Referral Code. This feature has been added to the top of the [Join form](#) with a checkbox to stand out. When an applicant enters an Agent Referral Code, the Promo Code option at the end of the form (where the *BLESSEDMCGIVNEY* code would be entered) disappears. Only one code can be applied, and both the Agent Code and Promo codes allow the applicant to join at no cost. **"FIND A COUNCIL" FUNCTIONALITY**

Additionally, a link to *"Find a Council"* has been added next to the *Preferred Local Council* field. This allows applicants to more easily find the correct local council they would like to join. Councils should continue to promote the use of this field and make sure that their new members know their council number.

Hopefully this will help sign up a man even easier now! See page 5 for more.

Men's Christ Renews His Parish

March 8th & 9th

Divine Mercy Parish

Men's CRHP Retreat

Event Details:

- Saturday March 8th & Sunday March 9th
 - 8AM to 9PM Saturday (*Optional: Social hour with drinks/snacks immediately following the day's activities*)
 - 7:45AM to 2:30PM Sunday
- Location: Our Lady of Visitation Library
- All meals will be provided including:
 - Lite breakfast, lunch, dinner, & snacks on Saturday
 - Lite breakfast & snacks on Sunday

Important Notes:

- There is **NO COST** to participate in the retreat
- There is **NO OVERNIGHT** stay required

Register for the retreat online at:

- <http://bit.ly/407ajq9> or by scanning the QR code!



Lecturer 's Message

By Dan Warnock

Council 30th Anniversary

On March 29, 1995, our council, St. Joseph of the Three Rivers #11550, was chartered as the 11,550th council in the Knights of Columbus. While some councils formed before us have since folded, St. Joe's K of C has only grown stronger many thanks to the dedicated men who represented St. Joe's K of C over the last 30 years.

As noted in this newsletter, we are proud to announce that our council will celebrate its 30th anniversary on March 30, 2025. I hope you will join us in honoring what I consider our bold and remarkable history.

This journey began through the diligent efforts of District Deputy Ken Gardner, with the permission and cooperation of Father Harry Gerdes. Together, they planted the seeds of our council at St. Joseph Parish with 35 charter members, all men from St. Joseph and Our Lady of Visitation parishes. The first Knights of Columbus business meeting was held on April 11, 1995, in St. Joe's Hospitality Room, overseen by Jim Bischoff, our council's first Grand Knight.

Since then, our council has grown to 175 members strong. As a fraternal order, our mission statement remains at the heart of all we do: To promote the Catholic values of all families, particularly those of the members of St. Joseph of the Three Rivers Council, through activities and assistance, and to proclaim the teachings of our Catholic faith while sharing our material wealth with those in need of our help.

Our council has never been one to rest on its laurels. In our first ten years, we donated a total of \$35,000 to our charity funds, thanks to years of hard work and thousands of volunteer hours (as noted in our March 2010 newsletter). Over the next decade, with the support of our Lenten Fish Fries, we doubled that amount. In our most recent ten years, with the addition of volunteering at Bengals games, our contributions have surely quadrupled.

I joined our council in 1996, a year after its formation, and I consider my membership one of the best decisions I've made over these last 29 years. This council has become like a second family to me. I've met countless good men, many of whom I have looked up to as mentors. Not only my fellow Knights but also their wives and families have become an integral part of JoAnn's and my circle of friends.

May God bless the St. Joseph of the Three Rivers Council #11550 and all its people, past and present.

Vivat Jesus!



Please join us for the
30th Anniversary Celebration
Of
St Joseph of the Three Rivers Knights of
Columbus Council 11550

March 30, 2025 4:30-8 PM

Miami Township Community Center
3780 Shady Lane, North Bend Ohio 45052

Dinner served 5:30PM

Please RSVP by March 16, 2025

Ed Hoffrogge 513-295-0260

Council Website and Facebook

Website at: stjosephkofc.org

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

From the Desk of the Financial Secretary

John Hughes

I had mentioned that annual dues notices would be emailed to you from Supreme. It turned out that there was a need to change each member's profile from mail to email, then send the dues notice, and then change profiles back to mail. This was not an acceptable change. Remember, the annual request to have members contribute to the Measure Up Program and Culture of Life Program has been removed from your invoices. The Program chairman for these events will ask you later to contribute. You can still include your donation with your dues payment.

There was a request to move our finance programs into the 21st century. We investigated and started the opportunity to use your credit/debit card or direct bank transfer through PayPal. At this time, one-third of dues payments received have been electronic payments. The second request to pay dues will be issued on February 1st. You can help save the Council postage and printing costs by paying your dues before January 30th.

Each year we ask you to tell us how many hours you have spent doing K of C activities. The report is due to the Supreme Office by January 31st. To date, three members have submitted their report. You can view the report at "[https://www.kofc.org/annual survey](https://www.kofc.org/annual_survey)". Just send me an email showing your name, program area, item number, your answer. We are reported to be the most active Council in Ohio. Now we have to prove this recognition.

Treasurer's Report December 2024

Beginning Balance	\$18,609.17
Income	<u>\$3,607.10</u>
Total	\$22,216.27
Expenses	<u>\$3,818.28</u>
Ending Balance	\$18,397.99
CD #1	\$5,757.13
CD #2	<u>\$10,782.29</u>
Total Funds	\$34,937.41

Our Programs

By Steve Rodenbeck, Program Director

This 2024-2025 Fraternal year has gotten off to an amazing start thanks to the commitment, hard work and dedication of our Council members. This is a tribute to each and every individual who has worked on or participated in a program. Needless to say, our Council is receiving recognition from the State. Our Council was the leading Council for the Measure Up Drive and was among the leading Councils for the purchase of raffle tickets. As of this point we are among the State leaders as far as points being awarded for the individual programs. One of our programs is being considered for selection as one of the top programs by the State. We are blessed and lucky to have such good Directors of Community, Faith, Life and Family and I thank them for their efforts.

During the month of January we had a special Mass celebrated by Father Jerry for People With Disabilities. Thereafter, a group of Knights led by Don Larrick went to the Three Rivers School where a presentation of the checks for the Measure Up donations was done. We had a tour of the facility to see how the funds we have donated are being used. It was a moving event and to see the children was moving. Our Social for the month of January featured a presentation by our Financial Field Officer. Not only did this event qualify us for the Founder's Award, but some good ideas were laid out. Lastly, our regular Bing program at the Nursing Home was cancelled due to a COVID breakout at the Nursing Home.

The month of February will begin with a special Dinner at the Farm to thank the volunteers who helped with the Bengal games. There is a core group of people who have volunteered for a number of games. This volunteer effort raised over \$25,000.00 for our Council and deserve a lot of credit for their efforts. If you do not know, each game involves about 7 hours of time and work.

Our February Social is our annual Ladies' Night Program to show our appreciation to those special ladies in our lives. They are our biggest supporters.

Plans are being developed for the celebration of our Council's 30th Anniversary and we will be doing another meal at the Ronald McDonald House. Also, it is time to begin thinking of our Annual Award winners for Knight of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Family of the Year, Youth of the Year, Religious of the Year and Blue Coat of the Year. Please give any recommendations to either myself or our Directors for consideration.

Vivat Jesus!

Membership Growth

Our current membership is:

134 Associate Members

46 Insured Members

2 Inactive

Of these members there are

33 Honorary Life Members

4 Honorary Members

44 Fourth Degree Members

New E-Membership
Continued from page 1

"HOW TO" VIDEO

Remember, we also have a how to video on the State of Ohio's K of C YouTube page. This will show the entire process of how to sign a man up online! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6kZFgaGKgEw>

PARISH BULLETIN INCENTIVE!

Finally, please don't forget about the parish bulletin incentive we have going on right now for E-Membership. For more details, go to kofcoho.org/membership

Please reach out to me for any questions you may have.

Thank you and Vivat Jesus!

Greg Singlar
State E-Membership Coordinator

Our Faith Programs By Ken Merk

I wanted to remind everyone of the upcoming 10th Annual E6 Catholic Men's Conference. It is being held at East Central High School's Performing Arts Center on Saturday, February 22nd from 8 am to 3:30 pm. The conference gets its name from Ephesians Chapter 6 verse 11: "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil".

The speakers scheduled are: Chris Stefanick, Bobby Angel, Craig Pohl, Jake Khym, and Fr. Jonathan Meyer. This event is a great way to reconnect to our faith. Consider inviting someone who may have fallen away from the church. It is also a great way to deepen your commitment to the faith. The conference occurs shortly before Lent and is a good way to enter into the Lenten season.

Please consider attending.

For more information or to sign up go to <https://www.e6catholicmensconference.com/>

Family Program By Don Larrick

MEASURE UP MASS, CHECK PRESENTATION AND TOUR.

On Wednesday, January 15th Fr. Jerry offered the 8AM Mass at St. Joe's for the intention of those Special Needs student who attend Margaret Rost and Three Rivers Schools. Fr. Jerry spoke about the need to support those with handicapping conditions. He then spoke about all the GOOD things the K of C does for our community and our Divine Mercy Family of Parishes. Many Thanks go out to the 13 members and their spouses who attended the Mass, Presentation and Tour. Thanks to Father Jerry for celebrating the Mass, Mike Groh for being our lector and Ken Merk for leading the singing.

At the school Steve Rodenbeck presented checks for \$4,800.00 to Margaret Rost Principal Duerk Zinn and Matt Lakamp the Director of Special Services and the Superintendent, Mark Ault. Holly Simms the Principal at Taylor Middle School accepted the check for \$4,800.00 for the Jacket Cares Program. Steve Maken outlined all that goes into providing security for the school district and showing us the technology they use. The tour of the classrooms was very informative and moving and let's us see the students we serve with our donations.

Growth

During this Advent and Christmas season, I ask everyone to invite a man to join the Order and give the gift of membership. Every Knights of Columbus member should be inviting eligible Catholic men to join our Order 365 days a year. Every event conducted by a Knights of Columbus council offers an excellent opportunity to invite men to join our Order and become a better husband, father, and Catholic man. Has your council implemented the new Knights of Columbus Initiative: "*Fishers of Men*?"

Fraternally,

Andrew J. Nuckols
State Growth Director

Honor Flights

Recognition of your Military Service.

There will be four Honor Flights to Washington DC this year.

Any new veteran to join our council in 2024 is asked to share the following information.

Your branch of service.

The date you enlisted in the service and the date you were discharged.

Your job profession title (and abbreviation) and the highest rank you held.

Please share this information with Brother Knight Don Larrick.

He will add your information to our annual Veteran's Mass in November.

And let us know if you would like to be considered for an Honor Flight.

Thank you for your service.

Bengals Recap

By Jim Bicknell

This season St Joseph K of C earned almost \$28,000 before expenses, almost \$25,000 after expenses. We had 30 St Joseph K of C members and wives work at least one game for a total of 149 worker days. We have a core group of workers that work every game when their schedule permits. This group should be applauded for giving their time because this would not be possible without them. I would like to especially thank Ron Pastrick for working every game this season. This will be my last function as Stadium Volunteer Coordinator after 9 enjoyable years. We made a lot of money for our charities over those years. Joachim Fischesser will be taking over the coordinator job starting next season and I will support him whenever needed. I will not let him fail. Anyone interested in working a game for the first time please contact Joachim or myself. We will be having our annual stadium worker appreciation dinner at The Farm on Saturday February 1. Any worker who worked at least one game this season and their guest is invited. This dinner is always an enjoyable way to end the season.

Football CRAZR

Congratulations to this years winners:

Kathy Fischesser and Ed Hoffrogge
week 1 \$20.00 each

Doug Sand \$30.00 week 2

Dick Roetther \$60.00 and Ron
Roehrig \$20.00 week 4

Paul Blevins \$43.34 week 6

Week 11 Bonus drawing Cliff Gump
won \$100.00

He was 1 out of 27 \$100.00 winners.
Just a bit of info on the drawing
Cincinnati Diocese had 13 out of the
27, the next highest was Columbus
with 5 and Toledo with 4.

ST. Joe's Parish

Councils cooking gear

Joe Lengerich and the staff want to express their Thanks and Appreciation to the 11 Knights for helping take down all the Christmas decoration on Monday, January 13th.

It took 5 Knights six hours over two days to put the decorations up and with all the help 2.5 hour to take it down and put it away down-stairs. Thanks to: Mike Groh, Cliff Gump, Ken Merk, Gil & Mary Carr, Tom Bredestegge, Fred Louis, John Kramer, Joachim Fischesser, Denny Murray and Don Larrick.

The council now has a trailer to store and haul out cooking gear: 2 grills, a griddle and now a propane steam table. Along with our utensils and supplies.



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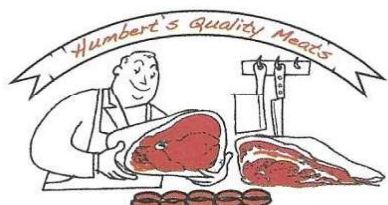
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at stjosephkofc.org

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
Rosemary Niehe

Hope Clark
Diane Sweeney

Mary Brady
Pray for cure of Alzheimer's

Cheryl Bredestege

Ray Fischesser
Active Military

Bengals volunteers

