



State Deputy

A Mid-year Holiday Message

By Paul J. Upman
State Deputy

My Brother Knights, we are at the midpoint of our fraternal year. We have celebrated Thanksgiving and are approaching our holiest of times, Christmas.

It's tempting and comfortable to turn our attention to family get-togethers, hibernation against the cold, celebrations and gift giving! But there's more: we are *Ohio Knights, Strong in Faith and Service!*

As good Catholics, we will pause and thank God for all that we have. We will attend many meaningful church services during the holidays and holy days. Even if things are not going so well, we realize that in American we are in the best country in the world. So, it is almost easy to be "*Strong in Faith.*" In most cases though, we need to work on the strong in "*Service.*"

In order to do the fraternal activities and to support the charitable causes that we all believe we should do, we need organization, we need leaders and we need support. In other words, we require a solid membership base in our councils and in Ohio. At a time when membership in fraternal groups seems to be waning, the Knights of Columbus "*Strong in Faith and Service*" and is actually growing in numbers!

That does not mean that every state and every council is in good shape. Many of our councils, and certainly our state, have

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Extreme Makeover – K of C Style

Knights join forces to help the ill son of their District Deputy

Knights from councils in Central Ohio banded together this year to produce an "Extreme Makeover – K of C Style" that benefitted the son of their District Deputy.

Thomas E. Gault is District Deputy-40, whose councils include St. Vincent Council 847 in Mt. Vernon and St. Luke's Council 910 in Danville, both in the Columbus Diocese. Tom resides in Mt. Vernon.

DD Tom's son, Tommy, is afflicted with Huntington's Chorea, a progressive hereditary neurological condition accompanied by increasing mental deterioration that has no cure. It has progressed to the point that Tommy is on disability.

Tommy, 48, and his wife, Betsy, had been living in Ashland,

but decided to relocate to Mt. Vernon so his family could provide assistance to him. They purchased a repossessed home just one block from DD Tom and his wife, Kathy. But the home needed a tremendous amount of reconstruction to make it livable and access-friendly for Tommy.

That's when the Knights came to the rescue.

DD Tom solicited the support of the Mt. Vernon and Danville councils. At their joint officers' installation ceremonies in August, a challenge was presented to those in attendance to join the project. Without fail, the Knights responded. That night 17 Knights signed up. The number soon would swell to 20. Louis Mickley, Grand Continued on Page 4

Why join the K of C?

By Paul Barko

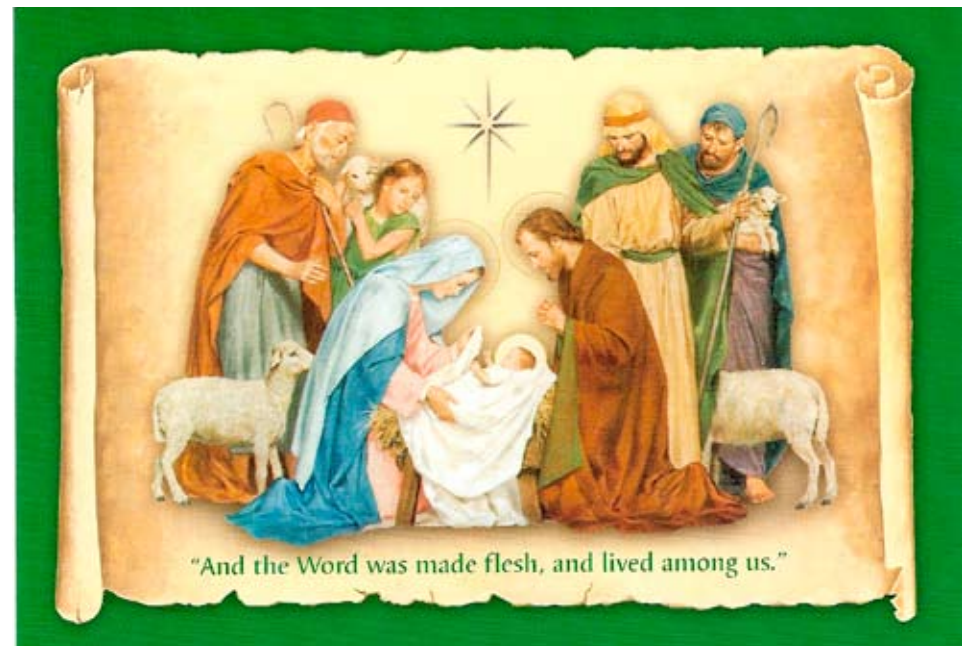
State Membership Director

Over the years, many people have asked me, "Why should I join the Knights of Columbus?"

While the answer varies from person to person, this is what I tell them about why I joined the Order:

"The Knights of Columbus was founded by a humble parish priest, Fr. Michael J. McGivney, in 1882, in the community of New Haven, Conn. The idea of starting the K of C was to provide a practical way of joining Catholic men together in service to their church, community, families, youth, and each other. It also provided a forum

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Courtesy of Keep Christ in Christmas cards

The Officers, Directors, Chairmen and Staff extend wishes for a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Joyful and Happy New Year

Fr. James Brown
State Chaplain

Paul & Lee Upman
State Deputy

Dave & Cinda Helmstetter
State Secretary

Ken & Linda Girt
State Treasurer

Bob & Linda Collins
State Advocate

Kevin and Tish Miller
State Warden

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State Chaplain

Advent Season begins our Christmas celebration



By **Fr. James Brown**
State Chaplain

Dear Brothers in Christ,
Happy New Year!

Sounds a little funny at this time of year, the end of November and going into December, the last month of the calendar year. I am referring, of course, to the new liturgical year that begins with Advent. This year the Church has us reflect on the Gospel of Matthew throughout the Ordinary Sundays of the year.

I read an article in a liturgical journal that suggests that we look at the three years together: Matthew, cycle A, Mark, cycle B and Luke, cycle C as a whole. These three are the Synoptic Gospels, referring to the Greek, (syn=with and optic=seen) – seen together. They all tell the story of Jesus and his ministry and life, death and resurrection each from a slightly different angle but from the same basic outline.

The article suggests that we don't just take each year separately, but as a whole, concluding with a phrase I like: "Where will you be three years from now? And how will the gospel impact your life in these next three years?"

"Keep Christ in Christmas" is a familiar theme of the annual Christmas campaign of the Knights of Columbus, as it should be. Remember, Christmas begins on December 24/25th and is celebrated for two weeks this year, concluding on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Jan. 9.

Advent is the four-week prelude that prepares the way to the Savior's Birthday. It is a special time in its own right because it helps us reflect on the preparation that God Himself made to prepare humanity for the birth of His Son into our presence. All the events of the Old Testament, the preaching of the Prophets and the individual stories, help shape the coming of the Messiah. If we are aware of these preparations for His first appearance they will help us be prepared for His Second Coming.

The Feast of Epiphany is also an important event to capture and celebrate. In a sense it gives us our orders to take our faith in Jesus out to the world, even to the people in the Middle East and the Orient.

The blessing of our homes is a good custom and tradition that needs to be revived. Fathers should be leaders in this asking God's blessing and protection of your family and your home; recognizing the gifts of "gold" that is ... all your possessions (it would be worth the time to take stock and inventory.):

Your "incense" that is ... your spiritual life and prayer life both as individuals and as a family ... how often do you attend Mass on weekends together, how often do you pray together as a family? And finally the "muhrr" ... all the suffering that you go through in the year -- illness, worry, depression, anxiety, headaches and heart aches. These are all offered up to the Lord and you ask His protection from them for your family. And you ask protection for your home as well, from fire, storm, wind water and creditors.

May you all have a wonderful Advent, Christmas and Epiphany this year. May you all be blessed and Be a blessing for all around you.

Knights to March for Life on Jan. 24

Knights, families and friends from all parts of the Order in the United States will be in Washington D.C. on Monday, Jan. 24, to participate in the annual *March for Life*, protesting the Supreme Court's 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision that legalized abortion. Each year since that decision the Knights have marched to the Supreme Court Building in Washington.

Hundreds of thousands are expected to join this year's march. Among them will be hundreds of Ohio Knights and friends. Many charter bus trips are being planned.

On the eve of the march (Jan. 23), the annual *Mass for Life* will be celebrated at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.

Ohio Knights of Columbus Website

www.kofcoho.org

State Deputy Paul Upman's message

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felt the effects of the economy on membership growth and activities.

So, I am asking each member to take a look at his own council health: Growing? Losing ground? Active in church and community? Keeping members interested? If you are not sure how you stand amongst your peers, ask your Grand Knight, Financial Secretary or District Deputy. They have the factual information.

Whether the signs show things are going well or in decline, it won't improve until each one of us recommits to the Knights of Columbus and the good we can do for ourselves and others. If you are a "card carrier" who rarely attends functions or supports activities, please rethink your attitude before these opportunities pass by. The Knights of Columbus offers so much to members and families, and it does not make sense to ignore what is yours. Make it a priority to get involved.

If you are involved, we need your help to contact an inactive member and to get him back. Personal calls as promoted by the "Power of 10" are very effective.

This issue of the Buckeye Bulletin is again packed with stories of success and great guidance from your officers and directors. After you read it, share it with those who do not receive our paper and advise them to request their own free copy. Only a fraction of our membership actually subscribe.

Lastly, I plan to see a lot of you during the holidays and holy days, but I want to be sure thank all of you now for being a part of one of the best K of C jurisdiction in the Order. And from the State Officers and our very supportive wives, we wish you a very Merry Christmas a blessed holiday season!

Toledo area Knights establish Hoffman Memorial Fund

Knights in the Toledo Diocese have started a memorial fund to provide continuing Catholic education for the two children of the late Brother Knight David Hoffman, who was Master of Ohio's Fourth Degree District Three.

Hoffman had attended Toledo Central Catholic High School, and wanted his children – Greg and Megan – to get their educations there also. Greg, who is a K of C member and still State Chief Squire of the Ohio Squires, is a junior at the school. Megan is a freshman.

Following Hoffman's death, Fr. Charles Singular, then Rector of the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral in Toledo and diocesan Vicar General (now Vocations Director for the Toledo Diocese), approached the Knights and asked if they would start a David Hoffman Memorial Fund to ensure those educations. The Knights responded, and Brother Leo Brenot (who also had attended Toledo Central Catholic) sat down with the school's principal and formulated the memorial fund.

Letters, including a return envelope, were mailed to Toledo area Knights asking for donations. The contributions are being sent directly to Toledo Central Catholic. One anonymous donor gave enough to defray the cost of the educations for the first year. Contributions still are being received.

The Buckeye Bulletin

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2 Columbus councils catch the spirit with Pennies for Heaven effort

Got Vocations? Pass the Jug.

Two Columbus councils have put those words into action with great results.

In early October, St. Michael Council 11445 and the Pontifical College Josephinum Council 15009 worked together to collect contributions for the *Pennies for Heaven* program during Sunday Masses. Together, the two councils combined to raise more than \$1,400, according to Brett Gissel, Church Director for Council 11445.

But the effort went further than collecting money. As a result of the collection and the presence of seminarians from Council 15009 as altar servers at all four Masses, the parish's associate pastor had a pleasant surprise, reports Gissel: Five young men approached parish priests inquiring about the priesthood.

Now that's *getting* vocations!

"It's a great example of two councils working together and achieving tremendous results for vocations," said *Pennies for Heaven* Chairman and State Secretary Dave Helmstetter. "Because of such positive results, the two councils are planning to do the same activity again."

Efforts such as those with Councils 11445 and 15009 are building momentum toward what Helmstetter believes will be a record year for *Pennies for Heaven*.

"Our goal is \$90,000 this year," he said. "For us to reach this figure, vocations need to be on the minds of every council in Ohio. More councils participating means more dollars to the vocations departments and their seminarians in each Ohio diocese."

The first deadline for *Pennies for Heaven* contributions is Dec. 15; the final turn-in date is April 15, 2011. Councils collecting more than \$1,000 will receive a plaque and recognition at the annual State Convention in Columbus. Participating in the *Pennies for Heaven* program also may be reported under the State Church Program under Activity #10.

Checks should be mailed to Helmstetter at 05421 County Road 33A, St. Marys, OH 45885-9658. A *Pennies for Heaven* form is available on the State website for councils, Squires circles and assemblies to use.



State officers, State Advocate Bob Collins, State Deputy Paul Upman and State Treasurer Ken Girt with Fr. Frank Basa.

Knights dedicate special memorial at the Western Reserve National Cemetery

Knights from councils throughout northern Ohio gathered at the Western Reserve National Cemetery at Rittman on Sept. 26 to dedicate a new memorial that had been donated by the Knights of Columbus to honor deceased veterans of Ohio.

The memorial is one of 116 that line a "Memorial Walkway" at the cemetery. Funds for its purchase were raised through donations from councils, assemblies, Squires circles, chapters and individuals mainly in the Youngstown, Cleveland and Toledo dioceses, according to State Treasurer Ken Girt, who spearheaded the Rittman Memorial Project.

"Today we are here to dedicate a very meaningful and visible sign of our deep respect and gratitude that we have for our military dead," said State Deputy Paul Upman in remarks at the dedication ceremony. "This simple yet elegant monument inscribed with a petition to God to watch over those who have served our country and passed on to their reward is an outward sign to the families of those buried here that those who served will never be forgotten."

Fr. Frank J. Basa, of St. Hiliary Church in Fairlawn and Faithful Friar for Ohio's Fourth Degree District One, presided over the dedication, giving a special blessing as Fourth Degree Sir Knights, families and friends gathered around the memorial on the walkway.

The entourage first gathered at the cemetery's main flagpole; then the Fourth Degree Honor Guard – 72 Sir Knights strong – led a procession around the quarter-mile walkway before stopping at the Knights' memorial. Members of American Legion Post 221 played "Taps" and sounded a 21-gun salute.

Members of nearby Wadsworth Council 3213 hosted a reception following the dedication ceremony.

Save that change during holiday shopping

Our State Vocations Director, Joe Mackos, has a Christmas Season idea: The Christmas shopping season is upon us. Many of us are looking for special gifts. Let us also think about the "Vocation" program without making this a hard challenge. Every time you're out shopping, you most likely always come home with loose change. Why not consider putting your loose change throughout the Christmas season into a jar. Then put it in your council's *Pennies for Heaven* jug. Perhaps we can raise \$25,000 in loose change throughout the state.

Keep Christ in Christmas

Knights proudly stand up and resolve to keep the Birth of our Savior as the reason for the season

We've had our Thanksgiving Dinner and now we're into the Christmas Season, preparing for the celebration of the Birth of Our Savior, Jesus Christ. And yet, to so many millions of people, it's become more of a time of shopping and partying rather than preparation for the birth of our Lord. So many of our stores today do not include "Christmas" in their displays and advertisements; rather use such phrases as "Happy Holidays" or "Season's Greetings".

But not to the Knights of Columbus. Each year we Knights emphatically proclaim, "Keep Christ in Christmas".

K of C councils and individual Knights are encouraged to promote that theme, "Keep Christ in Christmas". It can be done in many ways:

- Many councils provide special magnetic Nativity Scenes for their members.
- Posters and Billboards are available from Supreme.
- Encourage Knights to display a Nativity Scene in the yards of their homes.
- Hold special poster or essay contests for pupils in your parochial schools.
- Send Christmas cards with a religious theme, and use Christmas postage stamps.
- Submit a "Keep Christ in Christmas" message or advertisement to your parish bulletin or local newspaper – and your council newsletter.
- And most importantly, attend your church services during the Advent Season and always "Keep Christ in Christmas".

Light Up for Christ

On Tuesday, Dec. 7, at 8:00 p.m. local time, councils, assemblies and circles throughout the Order will illuminate Nativity Scenes and/or Christmas Trees as part of the "Light Up for Christ" program. Many of these events also will include such things as singing Christmas Carols or collecting gifts for needy families.

Councils, circles and assemblies are encouraged to participate in this event.



St. Luke's Council Grand Knight Louis Mickley (left) and Tommy Gault install a new door.

Central Ohio Knights band together to reconstruct a home for their DD's son

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Knight of St. Luke's Council, took the lead as general contractor. And Steve Crunkilton, Grand Knight of St. Vincent's, led his team.

Thus, the two councils created the "*Extreme Makover – K of C Style*" project as part of their Community Activities program. It became a two-month project for most of the reconstruction. The challenge was to make the home more accessible to meet Tommy's needs as the disease progresses.

A Brother Knight installed an air conditioning system. An Amish contractor was hired to install a new roof. Knights, along with Tommy, removed walls, flooring, carpeting, bathroom fixtures, etc., to get ready for the reconstruction. Electrical boxes were removed, cabinets uprooted and drywall extracted. Subsequent days brought more Knights to volunteer. A U.S. Navy buddy of Tommy drove from Wisconsin to assist with the electrical work and plumbing. Wives of the Knights joined the team to help with the painting. Tommy and Betsy provided all the materials.

Tommy and his wife recently moved into the home, even while additional work was being done.

Work yet to be completed was a concrete slab for a parking area and sidewalks, which Brother Knights helped accomplish. Knights also constructed handicap ramps.

More than 900 volunteer hours were recorded. Additional support came through parishioners and family friends. Food was donated to keep workers well fed. Another K of C council, St. John Neumann 14457, of Sunbury, heard of the project, and while it could not supply workers, sent along \$500 to help with costs of feeding the workers.

"The effort of both councils has been inspiring," said St. Luke's Council Advocate Tom Hughes, who has been heavily involved in the project. "The coordination and execution has been a sensational testimony to this year's theme of 'Being My Brother's Keeper'. The results we strived for have been realized as Tommy gets comfortable in his new surroundings. DD Tom and Tommy are well aware of the effects of this serious disease, as both witnessed the decline of DD Tom's first wife who succumbed to Huntington's when Tommy was just a young boy. Tom and Tommy face this long process comforted that the Brother Knights supported them not only with their prayers but also with their talents. The Brother Knights of both councils will remain on call to help in any way possible for Tom and Tommy."



Knights Don Crunkiton, Ed Gardner and Mt. Vernon Council Grand Knight Steve Crunkiton install new kitchen lighting.

2011 Super Cash Bonanza ticket distribution meetings

Diocesan meetings will take place in February, 2011, for the distribution of 2011 Super Cash Bonanza raffle tickets and instruction packets to all Grand Knights, council leaders and District Deputies. The meetings will be chaired by each diocesan State Officer.

At least two members of a council must be present and sign the attendance form in order to allow the council to be eligible for the special "meeting attendance" rebates. The two representatives may *not* include District Deputies or State Directors, unless they are the Grand Knight or Campaign Ticket Chairman.

Please plan to attend the meeting in your diocese and take advantage of the special "meeting attendance" bonus. Mark your calendar now!

The tentative schedule for each diocese is as follows:

Archdiocese of Cincinnati

Saturday, February 12, 2011, 10:00 a.m., Father Aufderheide Council 12912
St. Christopher Parish, 435 E. National Rd., Vandalia, OH 45377

Saturday, February 12, 2011, 1:00 p.m., St. Michael Council 3382
St. Michael's Parish, 11144 Spinner Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45241

Diocese of Toledo

Friday, February 11, 2011, 7:00 p.m., Tiffin Council 608
49 E. Perry St., Tiffin, OH 44883

Saturday, February 12, 2011, 10:30 a.m., Defiance Council 1039
111 Elliott Rd., Defiance, OH 43512

Diocese of Cleveland

Saturday, February 12, 2011, 8:15 a.m. Social; 10:00 a.m. Meeting
Garfield Heights Council 4130, 10806 Granger Rd., Garfield Heights, OH 44125

Diocese of Columbus

Sunday, February 13, 2011, 2:00 p.m., St. Elizabeth Seton Council 11187
Hermann Hall, 600 Hill Rd., Pickerington, OH 43147

Diocese of Youngstown

Saturday, February 12, 2011, 10:00 a.m., Marian Council 3813
St. Nicholas Byzantine, 1898 Wilson Ave., Youngstown, OH 44506

Diocese of Steubenville

North

Saturday, February 12, 2011, 12:00 noon, Msgr. Joseph Dooley Council 4361
Legion Drive, Mingo Junction, OH 43938

South

Monday, February 7, 2011, 7:00 p.m., Marietta Council 478
312 Franklin St., Marietta, OH 45750

Ohio's Top 10 Councils in Programming

Following are Ohio's Top 10 Councils statewide as of Nov. 1, 2010. Top 10 includes program points ONLY. Standings do not reflect membership or administrative requirements.

	Council	Location	Dio.	Pts.
1	West Toledo 3122	Toledo	Tole	1300
2	Fr. Anthony Wolf 4378	Russells Point	Cinn	1250
3	Msgr Lang 1039	Defiance	Tole	1175
4-6 (tie)	Fr. Carl Anthony 3213	Wadsworth	Clev	1100
4-6 (tie)	South Akron 3410	Akron	Clev	1100
4-6 (tie)	Mother Teresa 14344	Oregon	Tole	1100
7	Garfield 4130	Garfield Heights	Clev	1025
8	LaSalle 5621	Cincinnati	Cinn	950
9	N. Ridgeville 7970	North Ridgeville	Clev	875
10 (tie)	St. Anthony of Padua 9788	Columbus Grove	Tole	850
10 (tie)	St. Bede 13755	Mentor	Clev	850

District Deputy Director

District Deputies are your "Go To" guy

By Jerry Karpinski

District Deputy Director

The District Deputies throughout Ohio are the first place to turn by councils in any area they may need answers. Your District Deputy has access to Supreme reports and materials, as well as State materials and databases. They also have access to a vast network of other District Deputies, the Diocesan District Deputy Coordinators, State Officers, and State Staff.

District Deputies are experienced. They have been Grand Knights and probably have been in your shoes in most aspects of leading a council.

Use them. Pick their brains.

District Deputies also need your help. All have specific goals established by Supreme and the State Council in relation to Membership, Insurance, Roundtables, and participation in Supreme and State Programs.

Only through an active Council can these goals be met, and your District Deputy is responsible for at least five councils in his district. Active councils seem to have fewer problems with recruiting officers, members and participants for their activities.

We want every council in the state to be successful. Let's try new things, if you did not have a successful activity. Look closely, determine what went wrong, make adjustments and then fix it, or try something completely different. Never dwell on placing blame; just roll up the sleeves and fix it.

In terms of membership, suspension and retention, make sure that your District Deputy is fully aware of the current status of the council. There are specific requirements from Supreme for suspensions, with inflexible time lines. Your District Deputy needs to be part of this process. After your retention committee has completed its job, refer all proposed suspensions to the District Deputy for further action. We need to save as many brothers as possible.

Finally, your District Deputy also represents the State Deputy when they attend meetings on a quarterly basis. Please afford them all the honor and respect due their office.

Ohio Families of the Months

The following families have been honored as Supreme Council's Ohio Family of the Month. Winners are selected by a random drawing from among nominations received from the jurisdiction.

May, 2010

Family of John and Jamie Schmiesing, of Minster Council 2158.

June, 2010

None.

July, 2010

Family of Charles and Jennifer Fagan, of Fairborn Council 3724.

Family of Scott and Sue Reimenschneider, of Council 5173, Rootstown.

August, 2010

Family of Richard and Carol Fornal, of Council 472, Wintersville.

September, 2010

Family of Matt and Patricia Gaffney, of Perrysburg Council 7978.

October, 2010

Family of Nick and Susan Hogenkamp, of Council 2158, Minster.

State General Program

It's the season to plan that Christmas activity

By Mark Pickard

State General Program Director

As autumn turns to winter and the nights arrive earlier with each passing day, we as Knights prepare for the Christmas season. Our hearts are filled with the love of knowing we will soon be once again celebrating the Birth of Jesus, our Savior and King.

Knowing this, the first principal of our Order – charity -- will be the No. 1 priority for most of us. We will once again be looking for avenues to either assist a family that may not have it as good as we do, or to somehow bring the joy of Christmas to those around us.

Each of the six program areas have that special program designed for the Christmas Season. In the Church Program, Activity #3, "Keep Christ in Christmas", reminds us all of the true meaning of Christmas. "Caring of the Less Fortunate, Activity #12 in the Community Program, truly fits into the Christmas Season.

Under the Council Program, plan that once-in-a-lifetime Christmas Party for the council, Activity #24. Or include the whole family with Activity #33, Family Holiday Event. Or perhaps your council may want to do something special for the youth with a special Youth Holiday Social, Activity #45.

Are you looking for that special Christmas present for a friend or a member of your church? Why not invite him and his family to one of your Christmas socials, then ASK HIM to be a member. Share the dream of Fr. Michael McGivney in becoming a member of your council.

As we head towards the first of the year, the State General Program is close to the half way point. The time is now to check to be sure all the administration requirements have been accomplished and to take a good look at other accomplishments of the council. Ask yourself, "Have we told the state director of all the good things we have done?" If not, please report them soon.

On behalf of all the State Directors, we all wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Insurance

Poll: Success Linked to Ethics

By Carl Ferguson, General Agent

Ohio State Council Insurance Liaison

A poll of Americans and high-level business leaders proved what Knights of Columbus insurance agents have known for generations: religious beliefs and values should be an integral guide to business decision making.

Those surveyed also revealed they believe personal and corporate gain drives executives' decisions. Overall, they believe, as do the majority of the executives polled, that the moral compass of corporate America points in the wrong direction.

Only 19% of Americans would award corporate America a grade of A or B for its honesty and ethical conduct. Forty percent of these respondents had the banking and financial industry in mind when answering.

The positive side is that 75% of Americans surveyed believe that it is possible to be successful and ethical in business. They also believe that high ethical standards strengthen a company's advantage over its competitors, in both the short and long-term.

Additionally, more than 90% of people strongly consider a company's reputation for honesty and ethical conduct when considering whether or not to invest with them.

Nearly two-thirds of those polled believe corporate leaders should rely on their religious values for guidance in the business arena.

In this tough economic climate, it's of paramount importance that all Knights are reminded of the moral, ethical commitment of the Order to serve its members and their families. Earning just a passing grade is not acceptable to me or the other professional insurance agents of the Knights of Columbus.

Many Ohio councils have yet to recruit a new member

Ohio's membership recruitment efforts are improving. The numbers are looking better.

Unfortunately, there are 225 Ohio Knights of Columbus councils that have had NO membership activity since the start of this fraternal year, reports State Membership Director Paul Barko. That's more than 56% of the councils in the state.

"With your help we can make it happen. But we need positive membership recruitment from all of our councils to make it happen," he says.

‘What Mary Means to Me’ is subject of Ohio Squires’ essay contest

The Ohio Squires conducted a special essay contest during their State Convention last June on the subject of “What Mary Means to You”, according to new State Chief Squire Gregory Hoffman. Three winners were announced by State Father Prior Fr. Richard Snoke at the convention banquet. First place was awarded to Nick Okuley; second place to Christian Miller, and third place to Evan Nichols. The three essays follow:

By Nick Okuley

Mary to me is a very important person who plays a big role in all of our lives. Mary helps all of us in different ways. A way Mary helps me is through prayer. A good way to get your prayers answered is by praying to Mary. Mary can help you get your prayers to God who can answer your prayers and help your life out a little bit. Mary is very important in my life.

Mary also was very important during her time here on Earth. She sacrificed so much



Msgr. Dury Council 505, Zanesville (Columbus Diocese) established a Round Table with Fr. Jordan Turano, pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Zanesville. As the result of one of their initial discussions with the pastor, Brother Knights spent some good volunteer hours straightening and re-positioning grave markers in an old parish cemetery. Vandals had upset many of the headstones and others were damaged by the weather. Some of the markers dated back to the 1700's.

Ohio's Knights are helping their parish pastors

The Round Tables are working. Councils are working with parish pastors.

And isn't it rewarding to positive comments in council newsletters from our priests. Such as the words Walbridge St. Jerome Council 11450 (Toledo Diocese) Chaplain Fr. David Cirata wrote in his message:

“I want to take this opportunity to thank the Knights for their help with maintenance around the St. Jerome campus. Since our school building is no longer used for students, it was impossible for the parish to employ a full-time maintenance person. The Knights have really stepped up to make sure that anything in need of repair or replacement is taken care of immediately.”

Knights across Ohio are helping their priests. For instance:

- Thirty-five Knights from Our Lady of Charity Council 14406, Broadview Heights (Cleveland Diocese), volunteered more than 800 hours at the Church of the Assumption's Summer Festival, which netted more than \$31,000 – enough to start a “Raise the Roof” fund to repair leaks on the church and school.
- When the pastor at St. Peter's Church, North Ridgeville (Cleveland Diocese) requested Council 7970 to replace a garage roof, the Knights responded. Mission accomplished.
- Knights of Holy Trinity Council 6373, Bowling Green, used their hammers and saws at a deck-raising party on the St. Thomas More campus. Fr. Michael Dandurand, of the parish, asked for the Knights' help to give students in the Newman Housing Apartments at St. Thomas More Parish an outdoor place to gather.
- Leetonia Council 1569 has organized monthly cleaning teams which are responsible for routine cleaning in the parish hall, kitchen, parish meeting rooms and rest rooms.
- Knights of Holy Martyrs Council 4733, Canton, spruced up the grounds for the annual St. Benedict/St. Mary's parish picnic in August. Once the project was made known, many Knights volunteered.

during her lifetime it is astounding that She was able to cope with it all. It all began when the angel Gabriel asked her if she would give birth to the Messiah. The fact that she said yes dramatically changed the future of her life. And, if she hadn't given birth to Jesus Christ the Savior who would have? How would Jesus be able to save us from our sins? Mary might possibly be the single-most important person in our religious lives other than the Holy Trinity. Mary to me is a woman who dramatically changed the course of history for the better.

What Mary means to me is not just some lady who has statues in all Catholic Churches you walk into. Mary to me is a person who sacrificed so much that she had to obey God, a Saint that we can pray to in tough times, and a woman we owe respect to for all that she's done. Mary to me is an amazing, outstanding woman in which not enough can be said about. Mary to me is like my second mother in which I can look up to, considering she is the mother of us all. Mary is someone who I can ask of for something, through prayer, and she will help me in some kind of large or small way. Mary helps us all in ways that could be hidden or shown. Mary to me is a special person who I can pray to and look up to whenever I may need her.

By Christian Miller

When most of us hear the words “I love my mother.” We think of our earthly mother. But we miss one, our heavenly mother. It is sad that many of our protestant brother and sisters do not know and love her like we do. Mary is such a model for us. How many of our saints would have become saints without her? Would Lucia, Francesco, and Jacinta have become saints? What about St. Francis of Assisi or Dominic Savio? There are too many to count who would not have become saints without Mary our Mother.

Mary does so much for all of us because she loves us. Mary is called the new Eve because in the face of great danger she chose to do what Eve would not. When Gabriel asked her, he was asking her to risk her life. She was not married to Joseph and could have been killed by stoning. Nevertheless, she accepted. Bravery such as this rarely seen. If God ask you to do something like that, would you?

How many of us say the Rosary every day? Probably not enough! Maybe some of us thought this way sometimes “I don't need help to live my life right!” Wrong!

By Evan Nichols

Mary has become just another saint to most people. She has lost her symbol as a guiding influence in our lives. With a proper reflection, everyone can understand the importance of Mary. With greater violence in our world, Mary needs to become even more important to all Christians. I feel the Memorare can be the place for such a reflection.

“Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary...” This shows that Mary is glad and thankful you have turned to her for intercession. Mary is the perfect intercessor for us. Who is better to pray to? How could Jesus reject His Mother? We need to utilize all opportunity for spiritual advancement and praying to Mary is a great start.

“...that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.” Mary has never turned anyone down who has come to her for help. We should have faith in Mary that she can plead our case to God, who decides whether or not we get what we pray for. Mary provides the help we need.

“Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful” We should turn to Mary in times of need. Mary will not only pray for you, but she can give advice on how to deal with your problems. Mary is Jesus's mother and she was human. So, she knows what you are going through because she experienced a worldly life.

“O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.” Mary was the mother Jesus, so it makes her the bearer of Good News. Mary can help you find the Good News in your life. She will guide you to make the right decisions, if you choose to ask for her help. Mary wants to be of help to you and everyone else, but help is not there unless you ask.

As times change, Mary needs to be prayed to daily, especially when experiencing a hard or nervous time in your life. As you take on more roles in your life, you need a guide. Mary is the best guide you can find. She can guide you to heaven, the greatest kingdom. There Mary is the Queen. Can a loving King such as God deny the Queen?

Correction

In the September-October issue of the Buckeye Bulletin, LaSalle Council 5621 was omitted from the listing of Star Councils.

Attention: Financial Secretaries

The following was submitted by Michael Saine, State Retention Director.

Last Aug. 5, Supreme Council voted to amend Section 118(c) of the Order's Laws by adjusting the annual payment for Honorary Members (Knights who are 65 years old and have been members for 25 consecutive years).

Formerly, the annual payment was fixed at \$10, which included State and Supreme per capita charges and levies.

As amended, the annual payment for Honorary Members will include Supreme per capita charges (\$3.50), Catholic advertising (\$1), and the amount of the annual State Council per capita charge. Please make appropriate adjustments.

Knights who reach the age of 70 and have been members of the Order for 25 consecutive years, or those who have been members of the Order for 50 years regardless of their age, are eligible to become Honorary Life Members.

A council's assessment (for the Culture of Life assessment) will be based on their total membership minus Honorary, Honorary Life, Disability and Inactive Insurance members.

Please don't drop members who qualify for Honorary, Honorary Life and Disability in order to save a few dollars on Culture of Life.

Why join the Knights of Columbus?

Continued from Page 1

through which those same men could support each other emotionally, creating a fraternal bond to get through hard times. Fr. McGivney's idea was to have a council in every parish; building a unified support base from which those men could take care of their own families and those of their fellow parishioners."

So how does that apply to us today? Why should a Catholic man join the Knights of Columbus in 2010?

The answer today is very similar to the reason the K of C was started more than 128 years ago: membership helps us to build a fraternal base of support for each other as well as to witness our Catholic faith in a real and practical way.

We live in a "me" oriented society. We lead hectic lives that do not tend to foster connectiveness with others. We scurry from place to place working, transporting our children from activity to activity, and seldom stop to re-energize and take care of ourselves. This lifestyle promotes disconnection, increased stress and a decreased enjoyment with life.

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic, family-oriented organization focused on providing a faith-based foundation from which to witness true Christianity and build a meaningful life. Membership in the Knights of Columbus provides members with:

- **A Sense of Belonging** – Members have the opportunity to work, play and pray with other members and their families, providing a deeper sense of community than mere residence in the same neighborhood. They also are joined spiritually in remembrance at daily Mass celebrated by our Supreme Chaplain, and are welcomed at any council event conducted throughout the country.
- **A Sense of Accomplishment** - Working with Brother Knights on local service projects provides members with a sense of self-esteem and joy that comes from giving to those in need. Every year more than 140 million man-hours of volunteer service are donated by members of the Order to "make a difference" in their local communities.
- **A Sense of Unity** – Members soon become aware of how much fraternal relationships can add to their life by engaging in the planning and conducting of council service projects and council social events; helping them to "feel a connection" with others in their community. They also come to realize how much more they can accomplish working together than they ever could on their own.
- **A Sense of Pride** - Being a part of an international organization of 1.8 Million Catholic men focused on making a positive difference in the world provides members with a meaningful connectedness and a sense of fraternal support missing in the lives of most men in today's society.
- **A Sense of Righteousness** -- Councils often include the entire family in their activities, realizing that by modeling service to others they are promoting healthy values and a sense of ethics and morality in their children; while establishing a closer, more meaningful relationship with them.

Joining the Knights of Columbus is an opportunity to become a part of Fr. McGivney's dream to unite Catholic men in action; in service to their church, their community, their family, their children and each other. Please reach out and invite the Catholic men in your family, in your church and in your life to join us in this personally rewarding adventure!

Brother Barko can be contacted at kofcpbarko@roadrunner.com.

Ohio State Council Membership as of November 1, 2010

Diocese	Quota	Year to Date Gain	Year to Date Loss	Net	Percent of Quota	Needed
Cincinnati	465	113	101	+12	+2.06%	453
Cleveland	321	113	58	+55	+17.13%	266
Columbus	268	96	92	+4	+1.49%	264
Steubenville	80	5	15	-10	-12.50%	90
Toledo	420	59	70	-11	-2.60%	431
Youngstown	222	45	30	+15	+6.76%	207
TOTALS	1,776	431	366	+65	+3.66%	1711



A Fourth Degree Honor Guard stands with Auxiliary Bishop A. James Quinn at the new Father Ragan Council Blessed Virgin Shrine. With them are two Boy Scouts who were altar servers for the Mass.

Bishop dedicates Father Ragan Council's new Shrine of the Blessed Virgin

Knights of Father Ragan Council 3269, Avon (Cleveland Diocese) held a formal dedication and blessing of their new Shrine of the Blessed Virgin, which is located in front of the council's hall. It includes a walkway, bench for meditation and is lighted at night.

"This Shrine is meant to show our support for the rights of the unborn," said Father Ragan Grand Knight John Hricovec.

Cleveland Diocese Auxiliary Bishop (Retired) A. James Quinn presided over the dedication ceremonies, which included a Fourth Degree Honor Guard of the Lt. McManus Assembly. Prior to the ceremonies, Bishop Quinn celebrated Mass in the council hall. The adult choir of Holy Trinity Church, Avon, participated in the Mass and ceremonies. Special guests included the council's Chaplain, Fr. Girard Gonda (president of Benedictine High School in Cleveland), and Fr. Michael Stalla, who was home on vacation from his service with the Cleveland Diocese Mission in El Salvador.

Approximately 150 persons attended the event, which also included a dinner. Boy Scouts of Holy Trinity Parish provided altar servers and helped with the dinner.

The statue was purchased earlier in the year through funds generated by the council's Isabella Guild. The Shrine construction was provided through volunteer labor. Brother Knights and wives landscaped the project.

Archbishop Purcell Council honors 67-year member

Archbishop Purcell Council 2798, Cincinnati, honored 67-year member Howard Schutte on Oct. 17. Brother Schutte was to celebrate his 101st birthday on Dec. 1 -- the same date he took all three of his degrees in 1943.

A Third Degree held at Archbishop Purcell Council on Oct. 17 was held in Brother Schutte's honor. Seventeen Brothers were exemplified that day. In attendance for the occasion were State Secretary Dave Helmstetter; Brother Schutte's son, Robert; grandson, Joseph; and grandson-in-law, Jeff Tuttle, who is Grand Knight of Mother Seton Council 3376, Cincinnati. Robert, Joseph and Jeff also are members of Fourth Degree St. Isaac Jogues Assembly 0801.



The 2010 Soccer Challenge champions, with State Officers.

2010 Soccer Challenge champions are crowned in state finals at Wilmington

The 2010 Ohio Soccer Challenge was held on Saturday, Nov. 6, at Wilmington College in Wilmington (Cincinnati Archdiocese). The weather was perfect for an event held in November, with mostly sunny skies and temperatures above normal. The event was hosted by Fr. O'Donoghue Council 3369, Wilmington, led by Grand Knight Bob Gomez. The council secured the use of the main soccer field at the college, did much of the pre-event planning, provided many of the volunteers, and even brought in Wilmington College varsity soccer players to chase down errant kicks.

State Youth Director Ken Gardner, who was in charge of the event, thanked the council and Grand Knight for all the work they did to make this event a success. Having a local council host an event like this worked out great, they did an excellent job putting this program together. Council Chaplain Fr. James Wedig was even present to lead the opening prayer. Representatives from all six dioceses in the state were present at the event.

The participants – boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 14 -- had advanced through council, district and regional levels to make it to the state contest. The State Officers were present to root on their diocesan winners and were part of the awards presentation at the end of the event.

The 2010 State Soccer Challenge winners are:

Boys

- Age 10: John Bechtler, sponsored by Norwalk Council 626, Toledo Diocese, 200 points.
- Age 11: David Hahn, sponsored by St. John Newmann Council 11828, Steubenville, 160 points.
- Age 12: Sawyer Kratzer, sponsored by Fr. O'Donoghue Council 3369, Wilmington (Cincinnati Archdiocese), 195 points.
- Age 13: Adam Tebbe, sponsored by St. Francis DeSales Council 14408, Lebanon (Cincinnati Archdiocese), 225 points.
- Age 14: Brody Ritter, sponsored by Beaver Creek Council 7981 (Cincinnati Archdiocese), 225 points.

Girls

- Age 10: Abigail Steineman, sponsored by Our Lady of the Light Council 14891, Kettering (Cincinnati Archdiocese), 205 points.
- Age 11: Courtney Howell, sponsored by Fr. Carl Anthony Council 3213, Wadsworth (Cleveland Diocese), 120 points.
- Age 12: Hannah Ritter, sponsored by Beaver Creek Council 7981 (Cincinnati Archdiocese), 205 points.
- Age 13: Elena Helmers-Wegman, sponsored by Mother Seton Council 3376, Cincinnati Archdiocese), 215 points.
- Age 14: Kristen Woods, sponsored by Perrysburg Council 7978 (Toledo Diocese), 215 points.

The winners' scores have been reported to Supreme Council, where they will be compared to scores of other state contests. International Champions will be announced later this year.

District Deputies' Meeting set

The Mid-Year District Deputies' Meeting will be held at the Hilton Easton Center Hotel on the weekend of Jan. 7-9.

Ohio Knights . . . Strong in Faith and Service

The goal of this Buckeye Bulletin feature is to incorporate activities that Ohio Knights and Ohio Councils do throughout the fraternal year. We invite councils to send information for inclusion in this feature. Send to: Harding Christ, Editor, Buckeye Bulletin, 32649 Surrey Lane, Avon Lake, OH 44012-1642. Email: harding.c@oh.rr.com.

Bellevue Council 752 Knights held their annual Day of Recollection at the Sorrowful Mother Shrine last Sept. 28. Thirty-four members attended, along with Knights and families from 15 other councils. State Chaplain Fr. James Brown con-celebrated the Mass and then spoke on the importance of daily prayer and the history of prayer at a luncheon. The day closed with recitation of the rosary and benediction Members of three councils from Perrysburg and Walbridge presented checks of more than \$2,000 at the Annual Wood County Special Olympics Prime Rib and Crab Fest dinner and auction. The funds are earmarked for the Special Olympics program.

North Olmsted council 4731 hosted its fourth annual Men's Steak Roast/First Degree on Oct. 13 for its members and prospective candidates. The council this Christmas Season is selling a new version of *Keep Christ in Christmas* magnets The Msgr. Yates Fourth Degree Assembly hosted a *Dance for Life* at the Perrysburg K of C Hall Dayton Council 500 has been conducting its annual Clothing Drive Dayton Council, by the way, has produced a new brochure touting the work of the unit James Maslach, of Brunswick Council 4847, puts out an email to members weekly, giving them updates on what's happening in the council.

Our Lady of Charity Council 14406, Broadview Heights, plans to take over a mission to collect clothing, furniture and small appliances for the needy people of Appalachia through the Father Beiting Appalachian Mission Center in Louisa, Ky.

The American Flag is now flying on a new flagpole at St. Peter Church in Loudonville, thanks to contributions by K of C William Ankney Council 13601 and Msgr. Hannon 843 Fourth Degree Assembly North Ridgeville Council 7970 chose November to conduct its Support Our Troops Drive, whereby care packages were being collected for the USO program. The goal was to collect enough items to complete 200 care packages Knights of Msgr. Dury Council 505, Zanesville, hosted its annual Care Show and Ribfest in October October was a busy month for Westerville Council 5776. It included a Bowling Party, successful breakfast, its annual Sub Sale along with its ongoing Meals on Wheels and recycling programs. The council planned to have an entry in Westerville's Dec. 5 Christmas Parade.

Louisville Council 2530 participated in that city's Constitution Day Parade St. Brendan Council 11208, Hilliard, put the "sold out" sign on its annual Craft Show on Nov. 6. The council, by the way, is planning to sponsor a trip to Italy St. Aloysius Shandon Council 14094, Sherdon, donated \$600 to the Sisters of Notre Dame, to be used to sponsor an African child for one year of schooling. The council coupled with Boy Scout Troop 935 to sponsor a Spaghetti Dinner, sharing the proceeds. Akron Council 547 back in the 1920's started Camp Christopher, and now a book is being written about it. Knights met with the author to provide much good material from the council's archives. The council also ran Camp Santa Maria in the Portage Lakes from about 1946 until 1969 Members of Geneva-Madison Council 5286 regularly volunteer at the Madison Food Pantry.

Massillon Council 554 is planning to purchase Automated External Defibrillators for donation to St. Mary St. Barbara and St. Joseph churches Brunswick Council 4847 last August held its 20th Annual Horse Show. It always has been a dream of PGK Tom Leonti, who has horses on his farm in Brunswick Hills Harrison Council 2633 conducts a Rosary Alliance for its deceased members and their wives. It consists of saying three rosaries for each of its deceased members and ladies at the time of their death Medina Council 4168 a clambake at Camp Paradise as a fundraiser for the camp.

Eckstein walks to help combat juvenile diabetes

Past State Deputy Gary Eckstein participated in the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's Walk to Cure Diabetes last Oct. 3, raising \$2776. His participation was in memory of his daughter, Carrie, who died at age 28 last June 7 from Type I juvenile diabetes.

Eckstein walked with an estimated half-million other walkers across the country to try to raise \$90 million to help fund research for a cure for Type I diabetes and its complications. Eckstein's personal goal was to raise \$2600.