



The Carpenter

Fr. Edward Fitzgerald Council No. 12772
670 West Main Street
Plain City, Ohio 43064
www.kofccouncil12772.org



December 2009



In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town.

And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Grand Knight notes ...



The other day I was reading an article concerning "Catholic Identity" written by Pope Benedict XVI. The article discussed how we find Catholic identity in our vibrant faith, living as a compassionate inter-generational community, united as one in the celebration of the

Eucharist.

As I continued to read it struck me that the Pope was describing the primary principles of the Knights of Columbus: Fraternity, Unity and Charity! I couldn't help but think that we, as an organization and as individual Knights, present ourselves as examples of practicing Catholic Christian gentlemen. It is a real privilege to be part of an organization that upholds virtues as bearing witness through action and respecting God's creation.

In keeping with this theme, the Christmas season is an ideal time for each of us to put our Christian beliefs to work. In the hustle and bustle of preparing for the event, let us be sure to treat our family members, friends and strangers in the same manner as Jesus Christ showed his love for us.

On another note: Soon, we will be talking of establishing a forum or committee to assist finding jobs for our unemployed/underemployed in the parish. We will require everyone's help and ideas with this program! More on this later...

Make Reviewing Your Insurance a New Years Resolution!

Tempus fugit. Time flies. The older we get, the more that statement seems to ring true. Especially as we prepare to ring in another new year. I hope that 2009 was a healthy, prosperous year for you and your family.

**Free Throw Contest
& other news—
see Page 4!**

If you're like most people, you've made some resolutions for the New Year. If I may, I'd like to add to your list of resolutions by two. First, write them down. A resolution is really a goal for the year and, until you commit a goal to writing, it's nothing more than a wish. So write your resolutions down. Whether they be to lose weight, contribute more time and money to charity, read more or watch less television, you're more likely to stick to them if you write them down.

Second, schedule some time to visit with me, your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent. The "insurance check-up" that I'll provide (free of charge, by the way!) will quickly identify any gaps in your family's life insurance program. And you'll want to fill those
See Resolution, Page 2

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Written and edited by Bob Hess,
member of Council No. 12772. Please
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November business meeting notes

GK Report

- Check request for \$36 to Columbus Chapter for 1st and 2nd degree
- Check request for \$155 to Mark Mandel for Free Throw contest materials
- Membership summary 69 Knights, 24 Insurance, 45 Associates, 1 Honorary, 3 Honorary Life
- Request from Jim Abrams for \$200 for Kairos by letter.
- Year of Priests support-pins distributed
- Culture of Life fund request from Supreme-\$2/member/year.

Programs and Activities

- Shirts are ordered
- Matching funds are due soon
- Free Throw contest will be held at JAHS on 1/9/10 from 12-2:30pm.
 - 10-14 year old girls or boys, must have proof of age
 - Cost is \$300 for Awards and basketballs, Rental and Advertising
 - Manpower needs—2 adults for registration, 10 adults as judges, 10 rebounders, could be high school kids.
 - Promotion Flyers to schools, Bulletin, radio and local and diocesan newspapers.
- Bob Hess successfully deleted Activity 8 and this has been confirmed by Director.
- Estate Planning Seminar tentatively set for January 24. Council to consider furnishing and coffee and tea and cookies during the session.
- Knight of the Month - Bob Hess

Financial Secretary Report

- Dues are due next month
- First Degree January 7 at St. Brigid

Trustee Report-Ed Stransky

- Pennies from Heaven are due soon

- Fish for the fish fries will be purchased at Lovejoy and they will match pricing
- Need to respond to Ann Walters' request for quarterly cleaning. The Council is interested in helping with cleaning, painting and windows.

GK: we will offer baked potatoes at fish fries this year; Mark Mandel has ordered placemats.

Service Program: No different than info provided in November newsletter.

Membership Committee

- Andy Schimmoeller reported that committee is to reach out to members to engage them and provide contact point.
- Wally reported a couple of interested men and one complaint that the Council not doing much and not well organized.

Miscellaneous

- No business mtg in November or December
- Motion from the floor to support Family for Holidays through St. Martin de Porres; approved by unanimous vote.

Good of the Order: Roger and Jannette Harrington, Beverly Cooper, Terry Leonard, Mike Leonard, Check and Alta Woodruff, Jodi Santini, all military veterans.

Resolution, from Page 1

gaps now, not later. Because unlike many other products, you need more than money to obtain life insurance. You also need good health, and no one will ring a bell warning you when your health is about to change.

Knights of Columbus life insurance offers something precious few other financial products can – guarantee. As long as you pay your premiums, the policy proceeds will be there for your beneficiaries should something happen to you. We call that peace of mind, and that's – as they say in the credit card commercial – priceless.

Call Mark Mandel at 614-308-2294 or email markmandel@wowway.com. Call me – let's talk.

December Dates to Remember

Dec 5 7:00pm Reconciliation Mass—Church	Dec 23 No Officers Meeting
Dec 8 7:00pm Mass, Feast of Immaculate Conception	Dec 24 6:00pm Christmas Vigil Mass—Church
Dec 9 8:00pm K of C Meeting —Church	Dec 25 Christmas Day 12:00am Midnight Mass— Church
Dec 12 7:00pm Euchre Party— PAC	10:00am Mass—Church
Dec 21 11:00am Blood Drive— PAC	Dec 31 5:30pm Mass—Feast of Blessed Virgin Mary

December Birthdays/Anniversaries

Knights		Spouses	
Edward Ehlen	12/6	None on record	
Phillip Lashley	12/8		
Mark Mandel	12/9	Children	
Michael Brickner	12/12	Jeremiah Peck	12/14
David Seciliot	12/14	Maggie Schurman	12/16
Bob Hess	12/27	Wedding Anniversaries	
Stewart Wenerstrom	12/28	David & Sandy Klinker	12/5
Jon Santini	12/31		

Notes from the Pastor and his staff ...

Dishin' From the Desktop



Hello Gentlemen,
Prepare the way of the Lord!
Once again another year has slipped through my fingers. Where does the time go?!

The season of Advent is here and in the last few years, I have tried to treat it much like Lent. I want to prepare my heart a little more for the coming of Jesus.

In the office this year, I have noticed a large increase in the number of people requesting monetary help. As a matter of fact, it has become fairly common to have two or three requests a week, mostly walk-ins. As a result of one visitor to the office last week, we are having an intercom system put in at the front door so I can lock the door when I am here by myself.

How does preparing my heart during Advent and the information in the paragraph above relate, you might ask? Well here it is....I find myself being very skeptical of many of the people who ask for help. I have worked in various jobs and encountered folks who blatantly scam the system. This is not to say they don't need help, but their way of getting it is not always on the up-and-up. I have thought long and hard about this recently. Is it my place to judge even those who are not being totally honest about their situations? I need to use this Advent to try and see Jesus in EVERYONE, as hard as that sometimes is for me.

Our St. Martin de Porres committee has done amazing things this year and they are to be commended. They inspire me with their dedication and energy, but is there anything more the rest of us can do? Food for thought.

My wishes for a peaceful and blessed Christmas to you all!

Your humble secretary,
Ann Walter

Fr. Pat chimes in ...



Advent is about preparing for the PERSONAL coming of Jesus into our hearts. His birth marked his entry into the world. Through faith, he enters our hearts. Advent is celebrated as a penitential season so we may prepare our hearts properly. The Church uses purple vestments to remind us of the nature of the season: Prepare the way of the Lord.

We celebrate THREE COMINGS of Christ during Advent: First, his coming in the flesh; Second, his coming into our hearts; and, third, his final coming in glory at the end of time. It is easy to lose sight of the time since the world celebrates Christmas without regard to Advent. Perhaps the lesson is that without Advent, there is no Christ in Christmas.

Advent is a short season of only four weeks. We mark it with an ADVENT WREATH. The wreath is made of Evergreens, a sign of life in the midst of death. It is circular to remind us that for God time has no beginning or ending and we are in a season of God's time. The custom of the wreath originated in Germanic Europe. Wreaths were an ancient symbol of victory. In Christian symbolism, they represent the "fulfillment of time" in the coming of Christ and the glory of his birth.

We do mark the progress of time with four candles. Traditionally there are three purple and one rose colored candles. The rose colored candle marks Gaudete Sunday or "Rejoice" Sunday because the time is drawing to an end. Four is a symbolic number for "Completeness." There are four seasons to a year and, in classical thought, four elements that make up the material world (fire, air, earth, and water). Four Evangelists told the story of Christ and everything we need for salvation. The Church divides Advent into four weeks because with the coming of Christ the cycle of times is brought to completeness. Sometimes the halo shown on Christ's head contains a four armed cross that means Christ is a complete being, God as well as man.

***May you be in Heaven a long time
before the Devil knows you're dead!***

Council 12772 to sponsor Free Throw Contest

Our K of C Council will sponsor a Free Throw Contest at Jonathan Alder High School on Saturday, January 9 from Noon to 2:30pm.

Brother Mark Mandel, chairman for the event, said that the contest is open to all boys and girls who are within the 10 to 14 year old age group. Contestants must produce proof of their age.

Brother Mark has asked Council members to volunteer and support this important Youth program by serving as registrants, judges and rebounders; high school helpers are welcome.

The event will be publicized in our Sunday Bulletin, local and diocesan newspapers, St. Gabriel Catholic Radio, and flyers in local schools.

*To all my Brother Knights,
Editor Bob says Have a Blessed
Christmas and a safe and
happy New Year!*

Progress toward Star Council Rating continues

Our Council's effort toward achieving Star Council Rating has been progressing satisfactorily over the past couple of months.

The latest activities which were approved by State were the Ladies Appreciation Dinner, the Soccer Challenge and our support of the veterans' Holiday Party at the VA Medical Center in Chillicothe, all occurring in the September/October reporting period.

With these latest events, we now have a total of 725 points accumulated toward the required 2,000 points by the end of June 2010. We are hopeful of gaining another 200 points before the end of 2009 through the activities of our New Member Committee, holding a Council Open House, and reporting on our on-going support of each baptism in the parish.

Achieving the Star Council Award will require the efforts of each of our members in the various activities we have planned for the remainder of the fiscal year. When you are called for help, please do your best to contribute to our overall efforts to win this important goal.