

Ragan Report



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In Memoriam

Father Ragan Council lost two of it's icons this month. Both lived, loved, and served the Knights of Columbus for many years. May they rest in peace.



PGK R. P. LaScola



Rose Abfall

Annual Isabella Ladies Guild Tea Party

Tip-Toe Through the Tulips

Music, Music, Music!

Monday, April 23, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
K of C Hall, 1783 Moore Rd, Avon

Tickets: \$15 Advance sales only. Limited seating.

For information or tickets, call Pat at 440-933-8986 by April 16

Menu: Chicken salad, croissant, fresh fruit, pastries & tea
Raffles and Door Prizes

Super Cash Bonanza Campaign Begins

Under the leadership of Chairman John Pabin the 2012 Ohio State Council's Charity Raffle ticket distribution has begun.

All money raised from this endeavor goes directly to charities in the State of Ohio. Some areas funded include: Diocesan Vocations Grants, Veteran's Christmas Grants, & Solicited Foundation Grants.

The Price of tickets is \$5.00 each with \$2.60 going to the State Council for statewide charitable programs, while \$2.40 stays at our Council for the charitable needs of our local communities.

Of course, on a more personal level, the thought of winning \$414.00 a month for ten years has merit too.

In addition to the top prize at least 24 other winners will be chosen. I say at least 24 other winners because there will be at least one winner from each of the State's Dioceses and sometimes that doesn't happen in the first 25 tickets, so they continue until each diocese is represented with a winning ticket.

As always the winners will be chosen at the Ohio State Convention, held this year at the Millennium Hotel in Cincinnati beginning on May 25th.

John has partnered with various local groups to expand the scope of our sales effort and increase the amount of money we will be able to distribute to charities.

Checks should be made payable to FR RAGAN COUNCIL, and sent to John Pabin c/o Fr Ragan KofC PO Box 224 Avon, OH 44011-0224.

If we meet our assigned sales goal by the first turn in on April 6th, additional money will be returned to our local council. The final turn in MUST be made by May 11th to assure that the tickets make it into the barrel for the drawing.

If you have not yet received your tickets, or need additional tickets, contact John via e-mail at john.pabin@gmail.com or call 440934-4446.

OHIO STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OHIO CHARITY FOUNDATION

2012 SUPER CASH BONANZA

OVER \$108,000 In Cash Prizes

DRAWING DATE
Friday, May 25, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
The Millennium Hotel, Cincinnati

Donor need not be present.
Ticket rules on back.
Donation: \$5.00

1ST PRIZE ▶ \$49,680
Payable \$49/month for 10 years!

2ND PRIZE ▶ \$18,780
Payable \$187/month for 5 years!

3RD PRIZE ▶ \$12,720
Payable \$127/month for 5 years!

4th Prize ▶ \$4,000 10* to 15* Prizes: \$1,250
5th Prize ▶ \$3,000 16* to 20* Prizes: \$750
6* to 9* Prizes ▶ \$1,500 21* to 25* Prizes: \$500

THIS TICKET STUB MUST HAVE A FULL NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS ON A FULL NAME AND A TEN (10) DIGIT PHONE NUMBER.

OHIO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITIES 2012 SUPER CASH BONANZA

326054

FULL NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____
PHONE (____) _____
SPONSOR (____) _____
COUNCIL _____

Lorain County Right to Life Speaker Visits Fr. Ragan

Through the efforts of Fr. Ragan Right to Life Chairman Bob Trunk we were honored to have as a very special guest at our Social Meeting of February 16th, Ms Ginger Cramer.



Ms. Cramer, a very knowledgeable and articulate speaker, exemplified the true Catholic ideals of not only living our beliefs but sharing them by educating and encouraging others in the importance of following the Church's teachings on the sanctity of life.

The topic of euthanasia was discussed. Reminding us of the saving graces gained for us by the suffering of Jesus, Ms. Cramer pointed out the many graces that are available when we offer our sufferings in prayer to the Lord.



Life is a precious gift of God and minimalizing its importance or assuming that we as mortals, know what's best is contrary to the teachings of the Church but also contrary to logic. Why would God send his only Son to suffer and die for us, if suffering was some kind of "optional" experience that could or should be avoided. There is no religious requirement that life be prolonged by extraordinary measures nor that suffering be endured without available palliative measures, however actively taking a life is wrong.



Fr Ragan Awards Banquet

Plans are underway for the annual Fr Ragan Council Award's Banquet to be held at 4:00 PM Sunday March 18th, 2012.

There are many council members, families, and members of the community that have contributed to the success of the council over the past fraternal year so please plan to join us as we honor those individuals that have contributed to our council's success this fraternal year. Families, friends and members of the community are welcome to join in this celebration of Charity, Unity & Fraternity.

1st & 2nd Degree Scheduled

Grand Knight Fred Metz has announced that there will be an exemplification of the 1st & 2nd degrees of our order on Thursday March 22nd. Candidates 7:00 PM Degrees begin at 7:30 PM. Note even though the date is March 22nd, this is the 4th Thursday of the month and is not a regular meeting night, so you have no excuse not to attend and support our candidates.

Measure Up Campaign for the Developmentally Disabled

Chairman PGK Dan Pulit has been working hard to prepare for this year's Ohio State Council's Measure Up Campaign. Under Dan's leadership our council has increased the total money collected every year that he has been chairman. Looking forward to another record setting year Dan has arranged with the kind folks at Wal-Mart to allow us to solicit donations out in front of their store in Avon on Friday April 27th, Saturday April 28th, & Sunday April 29th.

Of course Dan can't do it alone. He needs a lot of help and he is counting on YOU to do your part.

In addition to planning for the collections at Wal-Mart Dan is in the process of getting permission from the four area parishes to allow us to collect after all the Masses on this or the following weekend. The success of this campaign depends on your support. It requires a minimal effort on your part but the rewards are great.

A large part of the funds collected are returned for distribution by our local council to area institutions. We ask all of our members to suggest to Grand Knight Fred Metz 440-963-0747 or Chairman Dan Pulit 440-930-2319 the names of any local groups serving the needs of the Developmentally Disabled that could use assistance.

Grand Knight's Message

We have heard many interesting speakers at our social meetings during the years I have belonged to the Father Ragan Council. The speaker at February's social meeting was brought in by Brother Robert Trunk. She was from the Right to Life Society of Lorain County. She spoke of the use of euthanasia and the Catholic Church's view on this subject. After her talk, there were Knights who seemed to disagree with what she said on this subject and felt every person should have the right to die to avoid the pain and suffering to themselves and others in their family.

This speaker set me thinking about life and how sometimes we as individuals enjoy great success, but sometimes we fall into situations that leave us wondering if there is anything worth looking forward to.

At a funeral I once attended, the priest told a story about a trapeze artist. While the artist admitted that while the spectators see him as the star of the show, he said the real star was the catcher, the person who grabbed him and guaranteed his safe landing. The key was trust. The trapeze artist had to trust that the catcher was able and ready to grab him.

The last step in life is death. Dying is like trusting in God to be the catcher. We have flown through life looking forward to God catching us in the end. At the end, He will pull us safely to Himself forever. I liked that thought that the priest expressed at that funeral.

Life is indeed a risky business. There is suffering, there is pain, and there is sorrow. If you have faith in God, the Catcher is at the end of your life to take you safely home.

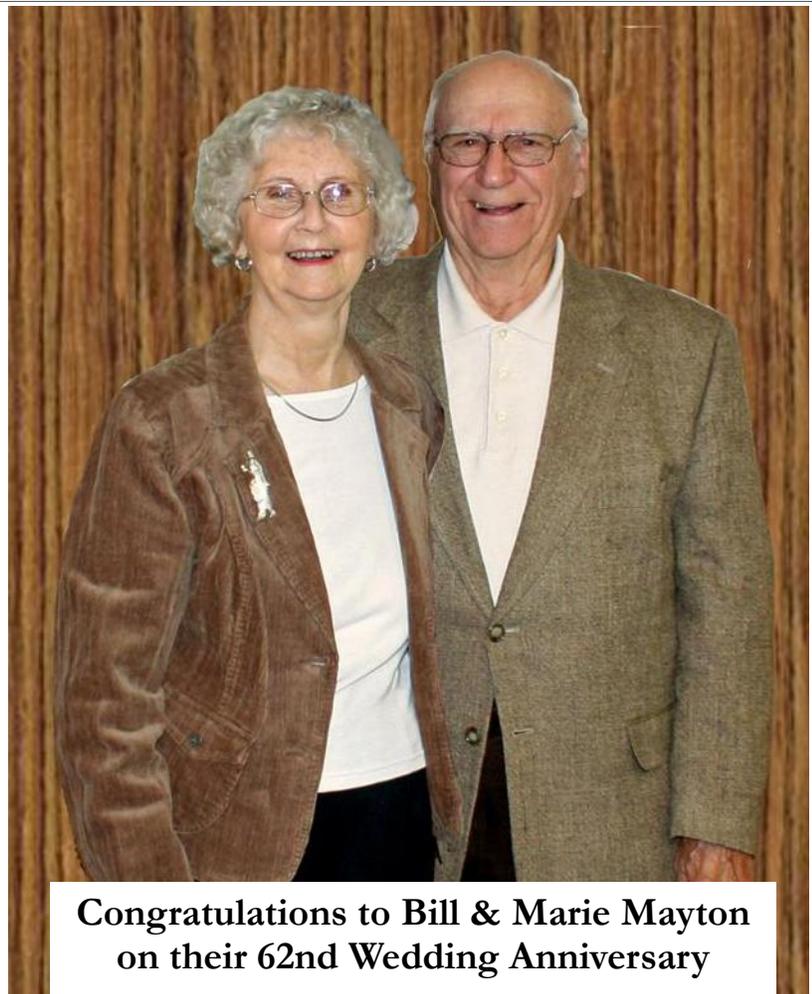
There is a poem that I saw online written about death by an anonymous author. I would like to share it with you to conclude this message:

Home from the earthly journey,
Safe for eternity;
All that the Savior promised –
That is what Heaven will be.

Vivat Jesus - Frederick Metz Grand Knight



**Happy 90th Birthday to
Brother Bob Banker**



**Congratulations to Bill & Marie Mayton
on their 62nd Wedding Anniversary**

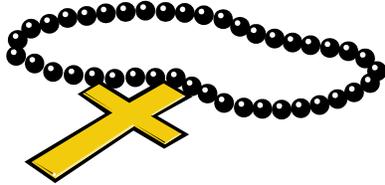
Right to Life Corner

Bob Trunk, RTL Chairman

Sunday March 25th 700 PM
Day of the Unborn Rosary

A KofC Day of the Unborn Rosary will be prayed in front of the image of our lady at our council hall, weather permitting. We can move indoors if necessary. Please join us while we pray for an end to abortion.

Contact Bob Trunk
for more info.
440-477-2721



Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus 2012 Convention

When: May 25th, 26th, 27th, 2012

Where: Millennium Hotel
150 West Fifth Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202-2393
513-352-2100

All social events (Friday Night at the Races, Saturday's Banquet and all Masses) are open to the public.
The actual Convention Business Meetings are restricted to Third Degree Knights in possession of a current membership card

[Get Informed & Take Action Now](#)

The following is an edited version of United States Conference of Catholic Bishops web page outlining their position on the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act.

Your help is needed to protect our First Amendment Right: "Congress shall make no law respecting the an establishment of religion or **prohibiting the free exercise thereof**" (Emphasis mine).

You can use the link on Fr Ragan's website to easily contact your Congressmen regarding this important matter:
<http://frragan.com/welcome.html>

Write to Congress. . . urging support for the **Respect for Rights of Conscience Act** (H.R. 1179, S. 1467).

The Obama administration's decision to require even religious institutions to provide coverage of sterilization and contraceptives, including drugs that can cause an abortion, makes passage of this measure especially urgent. Please ensure that the rights of conscience of all participants in our nation's health care system are respected.

Never before has federal law forced citizens to purchase what violates their deeply held beliefs and ethical convictions. But now the Administration is forcing us to act as if pregnancy were a disease to be prevented at all costs. For many Americans that means choosing between violating our consciences and forgoing health care -- literally an unconscionable dilemma.

Our country's longstanding laws protecting conscience rights must now apply fully to the implementation of health care reform. For that we need more than rule-making, we need a law.

The bishops are urging Congress to support the "Respect for Rights of Conscience Act" in light of the new HHS rule and the "unprecedented threat to religious freedom" it poses.

Please join your voice with theirs and with the many organizations -- Catholic and non-Catholic -- who are fighting for religious liberty and conscience rights.

Bishops Vow to Fight Coercive HHS Mandate

Cardinal Timothy Dolan, president of the USCCB, sharply criticized the decision by the Obama administration in which it "ordered almost every employer and insurer in the country to provide sterilization and contraceptives, including some abortion-inducing drugs, in their health plans....Never before has the federal government forced individuals and organizations to go out into the marketplace and buy a product that violates their conscience. This shouldn't happen in a land where free exercise of religion ranks first in the Bill of Rights."

He urged Catholics and the public at large to speak out in protest. !

Background

The HHS has issued a rule forcing nearly all private health plans to include coverage for all FDA-approved prescription contraceptive drugs and devices, as well as surgical sterilization. These are listed among "preventive services for women" that all health plans will have to cover without co-pays or other cost-sharing -- regardless of whether the insurer, the employer or other plan sponsor, *or even the woman herself* objects to such coverage.

The exemption provided for "religious employers" is so narrow that it fails to cover the vast majority of faith-based organizations, including Catholic hospitals, universities, and service organizations that help millions every year. Ironically, not even Jesus & his disciples would have qualified.

During the public comment period last fall, the bishops' grassroots campaign alone generated over 57,000 comments to HHS opposing their mandate.

Now that the Administration has refused to recognize the Constitutional conscience rights of organizations and individuals who oppose the mandate, the bishops are now urging Catholics and others of good will to fight this unprecedented attack on conscience rights and religious liberty.

More than Catholic leaders have called on Congress and the Administration to protect conscience rights in health care. The open letter appeared as a full page ad featuring over 150 of those leaders in the New York Times and the Washington Post on December 21.