

Ragan Report



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Grand Knight Report...

November, if you think about it, is a month that focuses on thankfulness and remembrance. We celebrate Thanksgiving in a few weeks, a holiday that has been an annual tradition since 1863, when, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national day of "Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens". Of course we know that the first Thanksgiving to occur on American soil took place in 1621, and was celebrated by the Pilgrims after their first harvest in the New World.

With respect to remembrance, the Catholic Church celebrates All Souls Day, a day in which the whole of the

Catholic Church prays for deceased friends and family through the sacrifice of the Mass that they may achieve everlasting happiness in heaven.

In the last week of October, the meaning of thankfulness hit home when our council cooked a Mexican dinner for the residents of St. Joseph's Homeless Shelter in Lorain. (We have partnered with Holy Spirit Parish to cook meals on the 5th Tuesday of the months in which there are 5 and also New Years.) Think of what it must be like to have to depend on someone for a meal and a place to stay overnight and then

reflect on how blessed we are to have homes and family.

Also during the latter days of October our Council held it's Annual Memorial Mass for our deceased Brother Knights. Our Chaplain, Fr. Girard Gonda, celebrated the Mass in our Hall and was led to the altar by Sir Knights in full regalia. The ceremony is profound in that the words leading up to the reading of the names of the deceased reminds us that we are made in the image and likeness of God but we are mortal and imperfect unlike God. And because we are imperfect we need to pray for ourselves our families and for those who have preceded us.

This month our Council will hold the first of two Spiritual Retreats on Saturday, November 9. The retreat will be held at St. Andrew Abbey on Martin Luther King Blvd. in Cleve-

land and after a noon luncheon at the Abbey the entourage will caravan to St. Stanislaus Church in Cleveland where we will learn all about this historic Church. If you are interested in attending, please contact me at 440-933-9955 for more information.

Also this month our Council will hold it's Annual Turkey Raffle on Thursday November 21 with doors opening at 6:00 PM followed by the raffle at 7:00 PM. As has been the case in the past, all participants will find this event to be a good time. Please stop by and help or take part in the raffle if you can.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Vivat Jesus,

GK - John Wesner

Donations Made to Local Parishes

GK John Wesner and DGK John Pabin stand with St. Joseph pastor Father Ron Wearsch after presenting him with an \$850 check for the parish. Checks were also presented to Holy Spirit, St. Mary and Holy Trinity parishes as well last month.



Sweetheart Dinner and Dance



The Sweetheart Dinner and Dance held at the K of C Hall on October 19th, Sweetheart Day offered great food thanks to J Thomas Catering, wonderful music from the Swing City Big Band and clever patriotic decorations contributing to the USO theme presented by the band who were terrific. They want to know when we will be doing it again, as did the 97 guests in attendance who had a great time listening and dancing to the swing music.

Thanks go out to the committee who put so much effort into make the evening a success. The decorations on the tables and throughout the hall brought many compliments from the guests and the band.



Thanks to Pam Christopher, Colleen and Kevin McHenry, Bobbie Bruder, Marita Rink and all those who contributed ideas and effort to the theme, including Nick Rak who allowed us to display his copies of WWII newspapers.

Thanks also to John Hricovec and his crew for the dinner, Beth Schindler for designing and printing the posters and tickets,



and Harding Christ for handling the publicity. Special thanks to Bernard Rink of Boskydel Winery for donating the wine. And many thanks for all the help on the day of the dance by the many Isabellas and brother Knights who set up the hall and tables, sliced strawberries for dessert, climbed ladders to hang flags and streamers, served drinks in the bar, swept, clean and did whatever was asked of them. Pam Christopher was responsible for many of the decorations including those down the entrance hallway and provided the fabulous punch and fountain. Thanks also to Cy Bliss for lending us that huge flag that was such a wonderful background for the band.



Thanks to all of you who supported the dinner/ dance by attending. For those of you who could not attend, you missed a great evening and we hope you will be able to make it next time . There was a profit of \$486 which was given to the Council. More guests next time=more profit!

Brothers Jim Bruder and Ted Rink are to be commended for all their hard work, which turned this event into a memorable night.



Retreat: "Marching with the Saints"

The Council's annual Day of Reflection retreat is November 9th from noon-5:00 at Benedictine High School. The theme will be: "Marching with the Saints" and will include a trip to St. Stanislaus Church to visit a relic of Blessed John Paul II (mitre). Stay tuned for confirmation, but Brothers will probably meet at Fr Ragan Hall around 11:30AM to caravan out to Benedictine. Lunch will be provided.



Parish / Local Events

Nov 9th St. Joseph (Avon Lake) Married couples' retreat presented by Dr. Allen Hunt: "Passion & Purpose for Marriage." The retreat will be from 9am-1:30pm. Tickets are \$25 per person. Tickets can be ordered online: DynamicCatholic.com

Council hears 'Lincoln & Leadership'

On Thursday, October 17th at our Social Meeting, guest speaker Roger Jorgensen presented a talk on 'Lincoln & Leadership'. Mr. Jorgensen discussed how Lincoln's tremendous passion for ending slavery was derived from his humble beginnings and how Lincoln was able to achieve his goals and purpose by "his ability to subordinate his own ego."



GK John Wesner (left) and PGK Rob Garrett (right) stand with Roger Jorgensen after his presentation to the Council

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

- The Annual **K of C wrestling Tournament** will begin on Friday Nov. 29 at Avon Lake High School beginning at 3:00 PM. Helpers are welcome and should contact PGK Bob Cobos if willing to assist in any way.
- Our Annual **Seniors Dinner** will be held on Sunday, Dec. 1 beginning at 1:00 PM. Brothers should keep this date in mind since we will definitely need help on that day.

Knights of Columbus, Father Ragan Council 3269
Located at 1783 Moore Rd in Avon, Ohio Off of Rt. 611 Next To QJ's

Annual Turkey Raffle

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Admission \$3.00



Raffle Tickets \$.50/ea.

**Each Winner Gets
a Turkey or Ham
& 10 lbs. Potatoes**

Doors Open at 6:00 PM

Drawings Begin at 7:00 PM

Door Prizes --- Beverages Will Be Available

Proceeds To Be Used For Fr. Ragan Council Charities

Meals Prepared for Homeless Shelter

On Oct. 29, Brothers Jim Bruder, Ted Rink, Henry Rodriguez and John Wesner, along with Isabella Lady's Mary Bliss, and Mary Jane Morog, prepared and donated a Mexican meal for the residents of the St. Joseph's Homeless Shelter in Lorain, Ohio. Our Chef for this meal, Henry Rodriguez guided each of his helpers in the preparation of the meal. The meal consisted of

beef Burritos, refried beans, Mexican rice, tossed salad, and chips and Salsa. The picture to the left shows the Burrito assembly line. The meal prepared was enough to feed 75 residents and helpers at the home. We have partnered with Holy Spirit Parish to feed residents of the shelter on Tuesdays of each month with our turn coming in months with a 5th week and Christmas.

In the future the Council will prepare meals for the shelter on Christmas Eve, New Years Eve and one more time on April 29th.



THANK GOD IT'S FIRST FRIDAY - WEST

This inter-parish men's group meets on First Friday for the celebration of the Eucharist, a luncheon and talk by a priest.

Upcoming luncheon:

DATE: Friday, December 6th

SPEAKER: Rev. Fr. William Wiethorn (St. Paul's Shrine)

LOCATION: St. Clarence Church, 30106 Lorain Road, North Olmsted

COST: \$10.00

TIME: Registration 11:30AM - 12:00PM; luncheon followed by talk, concluding with Mass.

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS: Call George at (440) 937-6606 by Tuesday, December 3rd

Notable October Council Events

The Annual Council Clambake was held on Oct. 5, and as usual, the food was good, and the music was good. We tried to change the day of the event thinking that attendance would improve but it was about the same as last year. It is hoped that next year's event will be better attended.

Congratulations go out to Brothers Rich Bruening and Henry Rodriguez for advancing from first degree members to third degree this month. The 2nd degree exemplification took place at St. Julie's on Oct. 6, and the 3rd degree occurred on Oct 19 at St. Hilary's in Fairlawn. Please offer congratulations to both Henry and Rich when you next see them.

Special thanks go out to the John Zajac, Kevin McHenry, Rob Garrett and Brother Knights who helped at the Donut Sunday at St. Joes where John, Kevin and Rob gave men of the parish an introduction into the Knight of Columbus using John's poster board display and K of C brochures. The morning netted 6 men who signed Form 100's with intentions to join our Council. GREAT JOB BROTHERS.

Special thanks go out to the Lady's of the Isabella Guild for having the carpets in the meeting room and the hallway steam cleaned. You can now see a definite pattern in the carpet that wasn't evident before. Thank you again Lady's for your thoughtfulness and generosity. Our Council is proud of you and your Organization.

A Memorial Mass, celebrated by our Chaplain Fr. Girard Gonda, was held at our Hall on Oct. 30. The ceremony was attended by approx. 65 people made up of family members of our deceased brothers, members, spouses and the Sir Knights of Assembly 811. The Sir Knights processed Fr. Girard to and from the altar at the beginning and end of Mass. Immediately following the Homily, the names of the deceased were read. At the end of Mass those in attendance were treated to a sit down dinner compliments of Brother Bill Greaney. Our Council wants to thank Bill and his family for their generosity. Special thanks also go out to Fr. Girard for officiating at the Mass after enduring 3 traffic backups on his trip from St. Andrews Abbey on the East Side to our Hall in Avon.

CALENDAR



Thur, Nov 7	Business Meeting (7:30PM, Knights Hall)
Sat, Nov 9	Day of Reflection Retreat (Noon-5:00, Benedictine)
Thur, Nov 21	Turkey Raffle (6:00PM doors open, Knights Hall)
Fri, Nov 29	K of C Wrestling Tournament (Avon Lake HS)
Sun, Dec 1	Seniors Dinner (Knights Hall)