

RAGAN REPORT



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Meetings Monthly 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 7:30 PM

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Grand Knight Report...

We are nearing the half-way point of our Fraternal Year. This past November, we held a memorial mass on All Souls Day. More than 100 gathered as we remembered our deceased Brother Knights. The fellowship that followed amidst the many family members of these men was absolutely beautiful. We laughed. We reminisced. We embraced. It is times like this that makes everything we do so fulfilling.

We held another Quarterly Communion at the 9:00am mass at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 11/15/15. In addition, we provided coffee, donuts, juice, and cider after both the 7:30am and 9:00am masses as we

spoke to parishioners about our wonderful organization. Of course, our Chaplin, Fr. Gerard, was the celebrant at both of these masses, and he delivered a spectacular message about being apart of the Knights of Columbus here in Avon & Avon Lake. Thank you for everything you do for our organization, Fr. Gerard.

On Thursday 11/19/15, we held our Annual Turkey Raffle. We raffled off 65 turkeys and 15 hams. This is one of my favorite events! Although, I'm not sure why because in 5 years I've yet to win a Turkey or a Ham. There is just so much excitement at this event. We also had a 50/50 drawing, and I want to thank

PGK Russ Wearsch, former Avon Lake Mayor Rob Berner, and their friend for donating their winnings back to the council. Your kindness is very much appreciated!! I also want to thank our Brother Knight Joe Abram for donating the beer for this event. Here is another random act of kindness that will be remembered by many for a long time. Thank you, Joe!! All in all, the Council raised over \$2400 to be used for our Council's charitable distributions. Thank you to all the Brother Knights and Lady Isabella's who planned, worked, and attended this event. We are a GREAT TEAM!!

On Sunday 11/29/15, we had our Light Up for Christ prayer service marking the beginning of the Advent Season. This was my first time attending this service, and I highly recommend it to all of you in the future. Thank you to Deacon Wallings from Holy Spirit Church and the Holy Trinity Choir for their support and presence at this service. It was beau-

tiful. Also, thank you to the Isabella's for providing the desserts following the service.

Please see the December Calendar for upcoming events and activities including the Knights of Columbus Wrestling Tournament, the 31st Annual Senior Citizens Dinner, the Isabella's Christmas Party, and the Knights of Columbus Children's Christmas Party.

With sadness, I ask that you keep our PGK Rob Garrett and his family in your thoughts and prayers. Rob's dad, Bob Garrett Sr., passed away this past week while visiting family in Maryland for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Finally, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!! It is time for us to prepare our hearts, homes, and communities for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Vivat Jesus
GK Kevin McHenry

Turkey Raffle Success

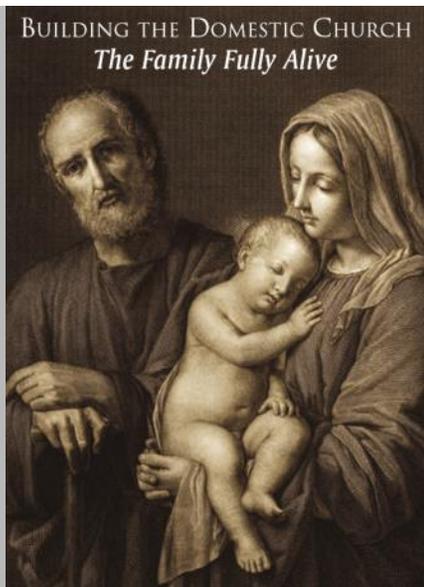
The Council generated over \$2,400 for charity with its annual Turkey Raffle held at the Hall on Thursday, November 19th. Thanks to ALL who volunteered and attended to make this event a success!



In founding the Knights of Columbus Father Michael J. McGivney sought to respond to the crisis in family life affecting Catholics in 19th century America. As a young man he witnessed firsthand the challenges his widowed mother faced with seven children at home. Later, as a priest he confronted on a daily basis the problems affecting the families of his parish community due to poverty, violence, alcoholism, immigration, anti-Catholic prejudice and discrimination.

Father McGivney's vision for family life was not simply that each family might find financial and material aid. He understood that holiness is the calling of all baptized Christians. And, seeing as his two brothers followed him into the priesthood, we can understand how truly important the "sanctuary of the home" was to the McGivney family.

In each upcoming issue of the Ragan Report, another month in the *Family Fully Alive* program that Supreme Council has put together will be featured...



December

Meditation

From Pope Francis' homily proclaiming the Jubilee dedicated to Divine Mercy.

As the Apostle Paul reminds us, God never ceases to show the richness of his mercy throughout the ages. The transformation of the heart that leads us to confess our sins is "God's gift," it is "his work" (cf. Eph 2:8-10). To be touched with tenderness by his hand and shaped by his grace allows us, therefore, to approach the priest without fear for our sins ... [and to] find the certainty of forgiveness. The greater the sin, so much the greater must be the love that the Church expresses toward those who convert.

Dear brothers and sisters, I have often thought about how the Church might make clear its mission of being a witness to mercy. It is a journey that begins with a spiritual conversion. For this reason, I have decided to call an extraordinary Jubilee that is to have the mercy of God at its center. ... This Holy Year will begin on this coming Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and will end on November 20, 2016, the Sunday dedicated to Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe — and living face of the Father's mercy.

1. When have we felt the mercy of God in our own lives?
2. Have we ever been a "witness to mer-

cy" and extended God's forgiveness to others? Have we been able to look beyond the limitations of justice, and forgive those who have offended or hurt us?

3. Can we, as a family, renew our own "spiritual conversion" by going to confession more frequently?

Special Christmas Project

Bring the miracle of Christ's birth into your home by displaying a special Nativity scene in a prominent location in your home. Throughout Advent, have family members place a different figure in the manger and meditate on the meaning of this humble place where God became man.

Family Project

Go to confession together as a family. Young children may need guidance in preparing for the sacrament: discuss with them how one might sin in regard to the Commandments and precepts of the Church. Older children might instead independently review *A Guide to Confession* (#2075), or a similar examination of conscience.

Share with your children that although it's normal to feel some shame when preparing for confession, it should not be something to fear. Through reconciliation and penance, a person is released from the burden of sin and gifted with great graces.

Light Up for Christ Photos

On Sunday, November 29th, the Council celebrated the annual Light Up for Christ thanks to Deacon Bob Wallings and the Holy Trinity choir.



THANK GOD IT'S FIRST FRIDAY - WEST

Through the Gifts from God, we provide food for the body, food for the mind, and food for the soul.

An inter-parish men's group will meet on First Friday for socializing, luncheon, talk by a priest, and concluding with the Celebration of the Eucharist.

Upcoming luncheons:

DATE: December 4th

SPEAKER: Rev. Fr. Michael McCandless

CURRENT LOCATION AND RESPONSIBILITY(IES): Director Diocesan Vocation Office

TOPIC: "Spiritual and Biological Fatherhood"

DATE: January 1, 2016

NO LUNCHEON WILL BE HELD.

DATE: February 4, 2016

SPEAKER: Rev. Fr. Thomas Pajk

CURRENT LOCATION AND RESPONSIBILITY(IES): Associate Pastor, St. Joseph Church, Avon Lake

TOPIC: "tbd"

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

COST: \$10.00

TIME: Registration/socializing begins at 11:15 AM; the Luncheon at 12:05 PM; talk at 12:35 PM; and, concludes with Mass.

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS: For the December luncheon, call George Perz at (440) 937-6606 by Tuesday, December 2nd. For the February 5th luncheon, call me by February 2nd.

REMINDER: PLEASE SAVE YOUR USED POSTAGE STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS. YOU CAN DROP THEM OFF AT THE LUNCHEON OR AT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL.



Volunteer Opportunities

Saturday, December 5th

Sunday, December 6th

Sunday, December 13th

Set-up for Senior Dinner, 9:00AM

Senior Dinner serving, 12:00 Noon

Children's Party, volunteers 12:00 Noon

Isabella News



**Isabella
Guild**

of Father Ragan Council No. 3269 Knights of Columbus

Please contact Mary Brady 440-222-2877 or Terri Pabin 440-934-4446 to secure your tickets for the "Believe in Christmas" Dinner and Dance on Saturday December 12.

Dancing to the music of John Kowalski. Toms Country Place will be catering.

BYOB-wash provided. Please bring a new unwrapped toy to be donated to The Blessing House. Tickets are \$22.00 Can't wait to see you there!

CALENDAR



- Thur, Dec 3 Business Meeting (7:30PM, Knights Hall)
- Fri, Dec 4 Wrestling Tournament begins (ALHS)
- Sun, Dec 6 31st Annual Senior Dinner (1:00PM, Knights Hall)
- Wed, Dec 9 1st Degree Ceremony (7:30PM start, 7:00PM candidates)
- Sat, Dec 12 Isabella Christmas Party (6:00PM, Knights Hall)
- Sun, Dec 13 Children's Christmas Party (1:00PM, Knights Hall)
- Thur, Dec 17 Social Meeting (7:30PM, Knights Hall)



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<http://www.facebook.com/Fr.Ragan3269>



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