

RAGAN REPORT



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

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Grand Knight Report...

Brother Knights, it's official. It is January/2016. We are at the halfway point of our Fraternal Year! I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas, and may the new year bring us all good health, happiness, prosperity, and an increased devotion to our Lord Jesus Christ and our Blessed Virgin Mother Mary. Our council has continued with the charitable work to our fellow human beings as well as being a significant presence in the community. December was no different. The month began with the 31st Annual Senior Citizens Dinner and the 35th Annual Knights of Columbus Wrestling tournament. Not only did we feed over

275 senior citizens, but we collected 5 large boxes of food for distribution to the needy in our community. I want to thank PGK Vince Gargaro, his family, and the Avon High School National Honor Society students that were so instrumental with the success of the Senior Citizens Dinner. The Wrestling Tournament was held at Avon Lake High School the same weekend. I would like to thank PGK Roberto Cobos, Brother Knight Mike Cobos, all the volunteers, and the 4th Degree Sir Knight's Honor Guard for everything they did to put on a competitive, well attended, and successful Wrestling Tournament right here in

our community for the 35th consecutive year!!

Like past years, we participated in the Coats for Kids activity. We distributed 12 coats to Community Resource Services of Avon/Avon Lake, 18 coats to Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Lorain County, and 18 coats to the St. Vincent DePaul Society. I would like to thank PGK Rob Garrett, Brother Tim Hohman FS, and Lynn Cobos, wife of PGK Roberto Cobos, for all they did to have the coats distributed to these worthy causes.

We also participated in the "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. Thank you to Brother Mike Collins for all his work to make this activity a success, and thank you to the judges of the poster contest. I am hoping we can get a second look at these works of art. They were beautiful!!

We held a First Degree at the Hall on December 9th. We have 4 new Brother Knights. Welcome Brothers Fred Hillow, Roland Kracoe, Glenn Nieschwitz, and Jim Powers to the Fr. Ragan Council. I hope to see you at our business Meeting on Thursday 1/7/16.

December was also full of Christmas Parties. The Isabella Guild

Christmas Party was held on Saturday 12/12/15. It was a blast!! Those ladies can dance!! On Sunday 12/13/15, the Council held it's annual Children's Christmas party. Thank you to PGK John Hricovec and his family for putting on a fun filled afternoon. It was so enjoyable. The Lt. McManus Assembly 811 held it's Christmas Party on 12/15/15 at Tom's Country Place. It's always fun to get together with these Sir Knights, as we get to see many from other councils in our area. We held our Council Christmas Party on Thursday 12/17/15. What a turn out!! Again, a great time was had by all. Thank you to everyone who brought appetizers and desserts.

On Tuesday 12/29/15, I had the opportunity to attend the weekly breakfast at IHOP with my Brother Knights. What a great way to start the day. If you have never attended, I highly recommend it. The fellowship is uplifting!! Finally, congratulations to John & Marion Wesner on their 50th Wedding Anniversary!! You are very blessed!!

Vivat Jesus
GK Kevin McHenry



Coats for Kids

Fr. Ragan Council 3269 Knights of Columbus had a very successful Coats for Kids program in 2015. Coats were distributed to many local families in need through three organizations.

Community Resource Services of Avon / Avon Lake received 12 coats,

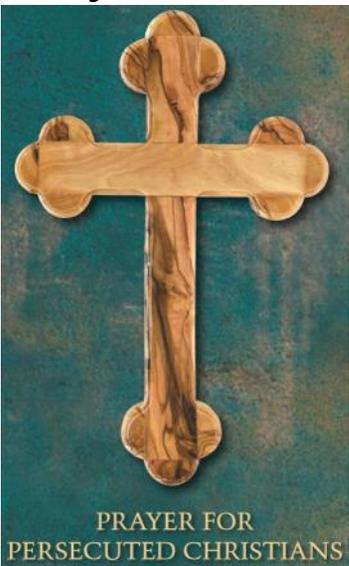
Big Brother & Big Sisters of Lorain County received 18 coats and

St. Vincent DePaul Society of St. Joseph Avon Lake received 18 coats.



Giovanna Kallas, Big Brother & Big Sister Program Officer; Gabrielle, a Big Sister in training; and Br. Tim Hohman FS Fr. Ragan Council 3269.

Prayer for Persecuted Christians



O God of all the nations,
the One God who is and was and always will be,
in your providence you willed that your Church
be united to the suffering of your Son.

Look with mercy on your servants
who are persecuted for their faith in you.
Grant them perseverance and courage
to be worthy imitators of Christ.
Bring your wisdom upon leaders of nations
to work for peace among all peoples.

May your Spirit open conversion
for those who contradict your will,
that we may live in harmony.
Give us the grace to be united in truth and freedom,
and to always seek your will in our lives.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen. Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

Prayer composed by Archbishop William E. Lori, Supreme Chaplain
christiansatrisk.org

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

Because the family that prays together stays together, we want to learn to pray as a family.

Meditation

From St. John Paul II's general audience on Sept. 10, 1997. Mary appears therefore as the supreme model of personal participation in the divine mysteries. She guides the Church in meditating on the mystery celebrated and in participating in the saving event by encouraging the faithful to desire an intimate, personal relationship with Christ in order to cooperate with the gift of their own life in the salvation of all.

By following her model, the Church learns to be bold in her asking, to persevere in her intercessions and, above all, to implore the gift of the Holy Spirit.

1. During my day, what are some times when I could take a minute to connect

with God through prayer, perhaps asking his help or simply thanking him for his love and his presence?

2. Just as talking can build a relationship, different kinds of prayer are different ways through which we grow closer to God. What type makes me most aware that God is near?

3. How is our family touched and shaped by the prayers of all its members?

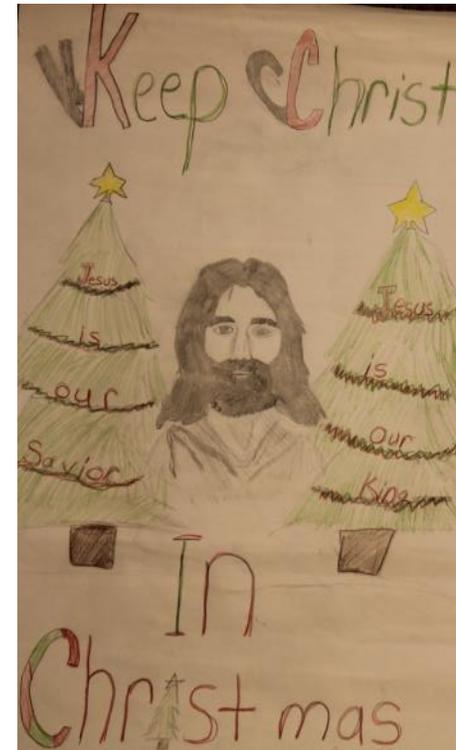
Family Project

Praying together as a family is a great way to experience the presence of God in the midst of our everyday lives. While there are many ways to pray, consider using the Bible as the center and focus of your family prayer time. You should begin with a prayer to the Holy Spirit, asking for guidance and understanding, and then read a chapter or verse aloud. Discuss those passages that might personally relate to your family situation or spirituality. Then, conclude with a prayer of thanksgiving for the gift of God's Living Word.

Poster Contest Winners



Rachel Turco
Age 11-14 Winner



Casey Thornburg
Age 8-10 Winner



Megan Walsh
Age 11-14 Runner-Up



Timothy Collins
Age 5-7 Winner

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: February 5, 2016
SPEAKER: Rev. Fr. Thomas Pajk
CURRENT LOCATION AND RESPONSIBILITY(IES): Associate Pastor, St. Joseph Church, Avon Lake
TOPIC: "tbd"

DATE: March 4, 2016
SPEAKER: Rev. Fr. Justin Dyrwar, OSB
CURRENT LOCATION AND RESPONSIBILITY(IES): Pastor, Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Broadview Heights
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 February luncheon, call me at (440) 937-6606 by Tuesday, February 2nd. For the March 4th luncheon, call me by March 1st.

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.

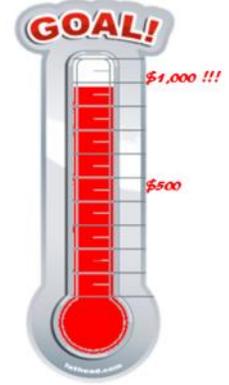
George W. Perz
Secretary-Treasurer, TGIFF-West

January Foundation Meeting

There will be a Bingo meeting at 7 PM on Thur Jan 14 & at 7:30 (same day) Foundation meeting. Also, any Council members who would like to be on the Scholarship committee this year, contact Rob Garrett at Jan meeting or by email at rgarrettjr72@yahoo.com

Council 'Pennies for Heaven' Totals

The Council's year-to-date (Fraternal July-June) total of Pennies for Heaven collection is \$900.00. Any council that collects \$1,000.00 is recognized at the State Convention.



CALENDAR



Thur, Jan 7	Business Meeting (7:30PM, Knights Hall)
Thur, Jan 14	Foundation/Bingo Mtg (7:00PM & 7:30PM)
Thur, Jan 21	Right to Life Trip to Washington DC begins
Sun, Jan 24	Holy Trinity Ministry Fair (10AM-1:30PM, Holy Trinity)
Sat, Feb 13	Wine Tasting Event (6:00PM, Knights Hall)

NOTE: There will be **NO** Social Meeting in January.



<http://www.frragan.com>



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



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