

November 29, 2014

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Dear fellow knights:

We're already into Advent this Sunday November 30 and we prepare ourselves spiritually for the coming of our redeemer as a child. We relive the four millenniums of waiting for the promised Messiah. With Christmas on the horizon and all of its family and spiritual preparations, our December activities will be relatively light. Please don't forget the next two activities. We need your participation.

1. **Sunday November 30 at 10 am – the Knights of Columbus Fifth Sunday Mass.** Fourth Degree Knights, please come at 9:45 in full regalia if you can. We will pray the rosary at 9:30 am. The Mass will be offered for the deceased knights of our council which include:

Thomas Goett
Don Robinson

Urban A. Cornett
John Cornett
James Davison Sr.
Bill Gabrielli
Alfred Gabrielli – 4th Degree
Juan Gomez Jordan
Jerry Gust
Bill Holt
Francis (Odie) B. O'Donnell
Karl Paulson – 4th Degree
Bud Raygo
Joe Sites
Joe Stiles

Please update me on any deceased knight that I may have missed. Please remember them in your prayers. May their souls rest in peace. Thanks to the Sacred Heart Council Pomeroy for the idea of having the Fifth Sunday Knights of Columbus Mass.

2. **Sunday December 14 after the 8 am and 10 am masses - Monthly (2nd Sunday of each month) K of C Benefit Breakfast** to help finance the March for Life by members of our parish. It will be great fellowship and delicious food with a lot of love added to it to strengthen our parish community. Bring your family and friends.

We need help to setup and prepare the food at 7 am, washing dishes, and cleaning up after each of the two breakfasts. As Matt Bokovitz so aptly described it, “every knight with a heartbeat is needed”. We were hurting for help especially before the 8 am Mass on our last breakfast on November 9 in honor of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Mary and Bob Murphy, our former Grand Knight.

In the future we will have a Mass and breakfast in honor of any couple of the parish celebrating their 50th or 60th Wedding Anniversary. Please inform me and Fr. Tom regarding anybody you know in the parish who will be celebrating their 50th or 60th Wedding Anniversary. We passed this policy in our last meeting because the mission of the Knights of Columbus is to help and promote the family and the stable marriage between a man and a woman until death do they part.

3. **The Knights continue to sponsor and lead the rosary 25 to 30 minutes before the Masses of the first Saturday and first Sunday** of the month. For December it will be the week-end of December 6-7.
4. **Sunday - Monday December 7 - 8 Immaculate Conception Vigil Eucharistic Adoration – Sunday after the 10 am Mass until the Monday 8 am Mass.** It would be great to have a **Knights of Columbus Honor Guard** there. If you come for adoration, please kneel/sit in the front row for as long as you desire, be it only 15 minutes or more. You don't have to be in regalia. Bruce Davison usually occupies the first row on the right for most of the time, including the all-nighters. You can do spiritual reading, converse with the Lord, and share your innermost thoughts and concerns with Him. One simple person said: "I look at Him and He looks at me".....i.e., listening to His inspiration. The knights of old in medieval times would keep an all-night vigil of prayer before the tabernacle in preparation for being dubbed as new knights. The knights of old would protect their kings; today we protect Christ the King in the Blessed Sacrament with our lives if necessary. After all, more than once in modern times has the Eucharist been desecrated.
5. **The Coats for Kids Campaign** continues to help the poor through the coming winter. There are collection points around the town, including the back of our church until December 10. It's mainly for kids, but we help adults too.
6. **Thursday December 18 at 7 pm – Communal Penance Service.** For a good preparation for the coming of the Savior a good Christmas bath for the soul is essential, Confession. Even if we don't have any serious sin, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a source of grace and helps us to examine ourselves and overcome our faults in the quest for holiness so essential to enter heaven. We have a choice: we can become holy either here or in Purgatory which is much more difficult.
7. **The K of C Campaign to Put Christ into Christmas.** Do your part with the bumper sticker, wishing people "Merry Christmas", not "Happy Holidays". Use religious Christmas cards and prepare yourself and your family spiritually for the coming of the Savior. See my Blog #149 at paulrsebastianphd.blogspot.com or click on <http://paulrsebastianphd.blogspot.com/2014/12/149-secularism-grinch-that-stole-advent.html>.
8. **The Christmas Giving Tree** is being handled by our brother knight Mike Ours.....some four or five years now. Many poor children have benefited from it. Thanks for doing that, Mike.
9. There will be **no business dinner meeting during the month of December** since the normal meeting would be four days after Christmas and three days before New Year's Day. Don't forget the rosary at 5:45 before every meeting. God knows how much our Council and its members need prayer.
10. We had a **very good turnout for the cleanup of the church grounds** on November 8. The Stapletons turned out in mass. Thank you for all of your help.
11. **Prayers Needed. John Payne** continues to receive radiation and quimo for his cancer. Please continue to keep our brother knight in your prayers. He continues to attend the meetings and cook. Nothing keeps him down. Ditto for **Oscar Bastiani** who is recovering from neck/back surgeries. Now he comes to Mass on Saturday evenings, attends our meetings, and collects money. Sadly, **three brother knights have seen their families break up**. Please pray for reconciliation and for more stable marriages in our parish.

I wrote some bulletin inserts on subjects relating to our knights. Bulletins of the past three weeks are in the back of the church. It may be more convenient to read them on my blog, which is more complete. Click on paulrsebastianphd.blogspot.com.

Blog #143 - **Rosary in the Park** that we sponsored with St. Louis Church and provided two honor guards in regalia. We even hit the front page of the Gallipolis Daily Tribune.

Blog #144 - Highlights of the **Respect Life Conference** at the Basilica of St. Mary in Marieta. The Knights of Columbus fight for life at all levels of the organization.

Blog #145 - Our Council 3335 Receives **the Star Award**

Blog #146 - **Bob & Mary Murphy: 60 Years of Marriage** They did it; so can we.....or until death do us part. You can send belated cards to the Murphys at 13467 State Route 160; Vinton, OH 45686. Bob is our former grand knight.

Blog #147 – **The Great Dignity and Value of Developmentally, Mentally, and Physically Disabled.** It mentions the special Olympics that we have sponsored over the last 15 years or so.

The strength of our council depends so much on you.....your participation, your volunteering your time and effort to serve God and His people. Thank you for all of your help.

Lord, help the Knights of Columbus be a force for the renewal of the parish and ourselves too.
