



August 2017

## NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. LOUIS COUNCIL 3335



Former Grand Knight Matt Bokovitz on the extreme left presents the St. Louis Council's most important and prestigious award, "*Family of the Year*" to Jackie with their new miracle baby Mary Lou Ann and Mike Ours with Layne on his left. In the front row is Coye holding the certificate, Blake, and Michael Anne. Butch LePort on the right, a member of the Awards Committee, looks on. Over the years the Ours family had to confront adversity, even tragedy, but each time it pulled together and continued on with a tremendous amount of faith and courage, coming out stronger and closer to God each time. In answer to the prayers of the parish community, the baby successfully underwent surgery immediately after birth and is now doing well. The family has been faithfully active in the parish. Layne, Michael Anne, and Coye are altar servers. Every Christmas the family takes on the giving tree project, collecting the gifts and distributing them to needy children. Mike works at the Kyger Creek power plant. The Knights of Columbus was founded by Fr. Michael J. McGivney to promote, preserve, and protect families.

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR YOUR MARRIAGE TODAY?** Perhaps the greatest battleground for **spiritual warfare** is the home, even more so than convents and monasteries. The family is the building block of society. When the family is in crisis, society is in crisis. Besides the normal conflicts of community living, the evil one is constantly looking for weaknesses in your defenses, particularly in your personal weaknesses and sources of conflict, irritation, and friction. So pray and take advantages of the sacraments and devotions to fortify your defenses. Your home may sometimes be a sitcom and sometimes a soap opera, but keep fighting to make it a true domestic church. If the domestic church is weak, so is the universal church. Be the spiritual

leader of your family. If you really love your children, love your wife first after God and everything will fall into place.



In the photo on the left Mary Ann Bokovitz receives the “Lady of the Year” award. As the parish secretary and administrative assistant to our pastor. While Fr. Tom was undergoing therapy for a broken hip, Mary Ann took over administratively, consulting the pastor as necessary and following his directives. She arranged for a substitute priest for four Sundays.....three different priests in all. At the same times, she had her regular duties as putting out the bulletin, renting out the parish hall, paying the bills, handling the Sunday collections, and many other odds and ends that we take for granted. This award is recognition of her valuable work (her efficiency, versatility, and dedication despite modest pay) and an expression of gratitude. In the photo on the right Mike Haas, the Big Fish (his avocation is fishing), receives the “Volunteer of the Year” award. When something breaks down or goes wrong with the heating or cooling, plumbing, electrical, etc., Mary Ann or Fr. Tom calls Mike and he responds quickly unless in Wisconsin fishing. He’s the parish Mr. Fixit, who can fix or build almost anything. He did bridges in his youth. All are asked to contribute their time, talent, and treasure; Mike gives more than his share of time and talent as well as treasure too.

Many thanks to our brother knights for keeping our cemetery so pristine and beautiful for the great and awesome sacrifice of the Mass that we will celebrate there on Labor Day, September 4 at 8 am. Volunteers will be needed to mow for the rest of the summer.

Our many thanks to Michael Stapleton for taking the photos for this issue of the Knights of Columbus Council 3335 Newsletter.

Make Your Summer Fruitful. Borrow Children’s Books and Videos from the Parish School of Religion Library in the Parish Hall and also at the Home School Library in the home of Tim and Chrissy Stapleton. The

donation includes many books and videos on the faith, the saints, Bible stories, and movies that teach virtue with questions for discussion. The books and videos for the Home School Library are more general, but most teach values and virtue through novels and movies. Anybody in the parish may borrow these materials through a sign-out sheet all year round. IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT PSR STUDENTS READ. CCD alone is not enough.



In the photo on the left former Grand Knight Matt Bokovitz presents the “*Chaplain of the Year*” award to our pastor, Fr. Thomas Hamm. While arranging for the funeral of his mother, Father fell and broke his hip. Nothing would keep him down. He concelebrated the funeral Mass in a wheelchair with Bishop Monforton and a host of brother priests. While recovering in Wheeling Hospital, he gave directives to Mary Ann Bokovitz. After a month he was back saying Mass and attended our meeting. At the Reconsecration of the Diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, he concelebrated the Solemn Mass with the Bishop and fellow priests. He managed with the responsibility of planning, contracting, and financing the rewiring of the church with the help of brother knight Keith Davison on the technical end. In the photo on the right Josh Davison receives the “*Knight of the Year*” award. Josh runs the “Coats for Kids” drive throughout Gallia County in November and December to help needy children and some adults. At the same time he serves as treasurer of our council. In his quiet way he gets a lot done for the council.

### August Activities and Announcements

1. **Eucharistic Adoration** on Sunday August 6 after the 10 am Mass until 4 pm. Please kneel/sit in the front row left as part of a Knights of Columbus Honor Guard. You can do spiritual reading; converse with the Lord; listen to Him; and share your innermost thoughts and concerns with Him to obtain healing and strength to keep going. *The community intention for August is for our youth who will be going back to school.*
2. **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 July it's Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup>. The next rosary will be on the week end of September 2-3. After the Mass, the Rosary is the most perfect prayer. Mary personally gave it to us.
3. **Monthly Business Dinner Meeting** - Monday August 21 at 6:30 pm with Rosary at 5:45pm in the church. We have great fellowship at dinner and the input of every knight is most valuable at the meeting as we make decisions regarding future activities. Our Council is as strong as each knight makes it. Come earlier for the Rosary. We



cannot be an effective Council without the Lord's help and guidance. *The next 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month Dinner Meeting will be on Monday September 25 at 6:30 pm with Rosary at 5:45 pm.*



In the upper left photo former Grand Knight Matt Bokovitz presents the Youth of the Year Award to the Nathan and Theresa Frazee children: Gabriel, Garrett, Cara, and Caleb. The new baby brother, Dominic will do his part in due time. They all help where they can, especially with the Fish Fries. Garrett and Gabriel are altar boys. In the next photo brother knight Keith Elliott receives the *"Bluecoat of the Year"* award. After a career as a police officer, he was appointed Fire Chief, still in the field of public safety. Keith has also served the Knights of Columbus as Faithful Navigator (president) of the local chapter of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly out of Marietta. In the photo on the lower left, Kimberly Edelmann receives the \$500 Scholarship. Her twin sister, Makayla, unable to attend, also received a scholarship for the same amount. Kimberly was on the varsity softball team at Gallia Academy High School while Makayla played for the tennis team. Kimberly plans to study Computer Science at the University of Dayton while Makayla studies at the University of Rio Grande. Finally, in the last photo all of the awardees are together as the Knights of Columbus Council 3335 Award Class of 2017.