



State Deputy

Will your council open the door of Faith?

By Dave Helmstetter
State Deputy

With Advent and Christmas upon us, we should more closely reflect upon the spiritual aspect of the Knights of Columbus and how it impacts us as we begin the Year of Faith.

What better time for your council to evaluate programs that enrich the spiritual life of your membership? Councils open and close meetings with prayer. Some councils may even pray the rosary before a meeting. During November, memorial masses for deceased Knights support a long-standing tradition.

All of these examples are expressions of our Faith.

As I was participating at my council's Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Service, the importance of spirituality captured my thoughts. Are we as Knights of Columbus doing enough to promote spirituality and grow our prayer life? How can we open the "Doors of Our Faith" in our K of C communities? We all know in today's society, the evaluation of one's prayer life, even for a Knight of Columbus, can be a humbling and sobering revelation.

Earlier this fall, I recall attending a membership meeting where the idea of organizing a "corporate communion" to revitalize a council was brought up to the 15 men in the room. The irony: only two men remembered corporate communions." This simple but meaningful action of membership attending Mass

Continued on Page 2



Ohio State Council Buckeye Bulletin

Dave Helmstetter - State Deputy

November-December, 2012

2011-2013



Take Up
His Cross
For Charity • In Unity
• With Fraternity

People we're thankful for . . .

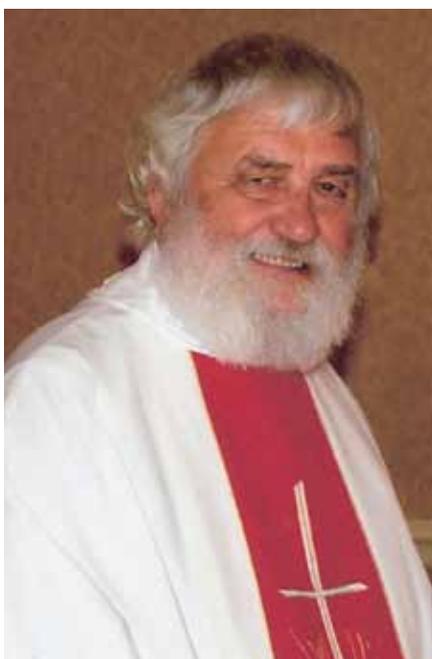
Fr. Snoke retires, goes back home

Back on July 8, 2012, there was a huge celebration in Danville, a small town of approximately 1,000 residents located northeast of Columbus. It was a celebration of love for a priest who had served as pastor of the town's Catholic church for the past 25 years.

The priest was Rev. F. Richard Snoke, who that day celebrated his final Mass as pastor of St. Luke Parish before retiring. Yes, Fr. Snoke, who Knights of Columbus know and love for his passionate leadership of the Ohio Columbian Squires program, and who served a two-year term as State Chaplain.

St. Luke Church was packed that Sunday with parishioners, Knights – including State Deputy Dave Helmstetter – Squires, Catholics and non-Catholics alike – including city officials, pastors of other churches in Danville. Those who couldn't find room in the church witnessed the Mass on closed-circuit television in the adjacent parish community center.

Later that day the townspeople gathered in that community center for a dinner



honoring Fr. Snoke and thanking him for his service to St. Luke Parish, the community and Knox County. The following Tuesday – July 10 – Fr. Snoke left Danville and returned to the family homestead on a farm located three miles south of Lancaster, in Fairfield County (Columbus Diocese), where he took up residence with his sister, Mary Ann.

"I'm very grateful and blessed to be able to have stayed here this long," he told the

Columbus Catholic Times newspaper in a recent interview. "I've reached the point where it's getting harder to do some things and it's best for a younger man to take over."

Besides being at the home in Lancaster, Fr. Snoke will do some commuting to Port Clinton, located along Lake Erie in the Toledo Diocese, where the Snoke family has a cottage.

Fr. Snoke, now 77, celebrated his 47th Anniversary as a priest last May. He has been slowed somewhat in recent years. He underwent hip replacement surgery in

Continued on Page 3

Ohio Councils benefit from Read & Raise

Councils throughout Ohio are benefitting from a new magazine subscription program that returns 20% to them for each subscription sold.

And, says State Deputy Dave Helmstetter, "By teaming with some of America's most successful Catholic publications, the Ohio State Council is reaching out to its thousands of members to spread the word – both in terms of excellent reading materials and this phenomenal fundraising opportunity." Such publications include *Catholic Digest*, *Liguorian*, *Living Faith Kids*, *National Catholic Register* and *St. Anthony Messenger*.

Helmstetter has named District Deputy-18 Michael Thomas as coordinator of the Read&Raise program. Thomas is president of the Greater Dayton Chapter and is an officer of the Fourth Degree Father Kuhlman Assembly. He resides in Miamisburg.

For each year-long subscription sold, the Ohio State Council receives 40% in return, and 20% of that is returned to councils that sold the subscription.

"It's an unprecedented opportunity to promote Catholic learning and raise funds for Knights of Columbus programs," Helmstetter said. The program was announced to Ohio Knights in October, and the offer will end Dec. 31.

It's a web-based program. All councils

Continued on Page 2

Do you know where your Membership Plan Is?

By Ken (Ohio Jones) Gardner, *State Membership Director*

The new Step #61 in the State Membership Program has been a success so far, with 165 councils statewide submitting a Membership Plan. Those councils all took the time to look at what their council does in the parish and community, and planned how they will use these programs to recruit new members. They also looked at what skills and qualities they will be looking for when recruiting new members, and setting goals for membership gains in each quarter. These goals added up to more than 1,800 members statewide!

If every council reaches their goal, that would put Ohio well on its way to meeting our Supreme Council Membership quota for the 2012-2013 fraternal year, and put us back in the Circle of Honor. But the Membership Plan that your council completed and submitted only can be successful if it is put into action by your council.

Continued on Page 7

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CLEVELAND, OHIO
PERMIT NO. 229

Ohio State Council
Knights of Columbus
Buckeye Bulletin
32649 Surrey Lane
Avon Lake, OH 44012-1642

State Chaplain

The Immaculate Conception of Mary reminds us that the New Evangelization begins in us – in our own hearts. Before we can spread the Gospel to others, we must first put it into practice

By Fr. Ron Williams
State Chaplain



This is the time of year when we celebrate many holidays. We celebrate Thanksgiving Day as a reminder of our ancestors who came to the New World to have freedom of worship. We celebrate Christmas Day, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We celebrate the feast of Mary, the Mother of God, dedicating the New Year to our Blessed Mother, and the World Day of Peace. We celebrate the feast of Epiphany as a reminder that, as St. Paul said, “In Christ, there is neither Jew nor Greek.” There is also one other holiday that, if we’re not careful, we could easily miss: December 8th is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of our Blessed Mother.

When Bl. Pius IX infallibly declared the dogma of the Immaculate Conception in 1854, the Catholic bishops were in the midst of evangelizing our country. It was not enough to establish churches and provide the sacraments and education for waves of Catholic immigrants. In many places, our Catholic ancestors had to fight for survival. In the world before television and internet, challenges to the Catholic faith provided open forums for debate and the opportunity to win over new converts. Archbishop John-Baptist Purcell of Cincinnati was famous for his debates with Protestant ministers.

At the same time, our bishops looked to our Blessed Mother for her prayers and assistance. Looking to the signs of the times, they declared the Immaculate Conception of Mary, the Mother of God, to be the patron saint of the United States of America.

And what a wonderful patroness they chose! Not only does she provide spiritual help in our continuing work of evangelization, Mary reminds us that the New Evangelization begins in us – in our own hearts. Before we can spread the Gospel to others, we must first put it into practice. Mary was conceived without Original Sin. She never committed a sin her entire life. When we are faced with difficult choices – when we are confronted with temptation – we look to Mary, our model, to help us make the same choices she made. We want to make the choices that never lead us to sin. And the beauty is that Mary looks out for us with the tenderness, compassion, and love of a mother. She wants what is best for us. She wants to draw us into a closer relationship with her Son, Jesus Christ.

So, when Dec. 8 comes around this year, let us not groan and regard it as yet another reason to get up early on a Saturday morning. Celebrating the feast day of the Immaculate Conception is more than satisfying a moral obligation or a patriotic duty. We look to Mary as our patron saint. We ask her to pray for our country and the protection of our religious freedom. We also ask her to pray for us. With conversion of heart, we can go out and spread the New Evangelization first and foremost by leading by our own example and personal witness to Christ. Mother Mary, conceived without Original Sin, pray for us!

Ohio Councils benefit from Read & Raise

Continued from Page 1

have to do is access www.readandraise.org, click on the SHOP tab, make choices, designate your council and place the order. Actually, those persons interested in subscribing can visit the website, select the proper council number from a drop-down menu, select their magazines and complete the purchase with their credit or debit card.

“There’s great potential for every council to be very successful financially,” Helmstetter added.

For further information, access the Read & Raise website, www.readandraise.org.

Don’t forget the military scholarship fund

Ohio’s councils are asked to contribute toward Supreme Councils program to provide scholarships for seminarians preparing to become Catholic chaplains in the U.S. Armed Forces. The Fourth Degree has undertaken coordination of fund-raising for this program, which order-wide will distribute \$1 million in scholarship money to the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, over a period of five years at a rate of \$200,000 per year.

It is hoped that these funds, in turn, will produce a new generation of much-needed Catholic chaplains to minister to U.S. military personnel and their families. Each jurisdiction is being asked to contribute \$4,000 annually to the fund for five years.

Will your council open the door of faith?

Continued from Page 1

together as one has slowly faded away in many councils.

When I first joined the Knights, district and council corporate communions were vibrant shows of unity and devotion by Knights and their families. Recently, the Supreme Council placed a strong effort to encourage councils to hold frequent corporate communions. I’m also sure that if K of C leaders examined council bylaws there is probably a requirement for at least one annual corporate communion. I encourage councils to “dust off” this once traditional practice and bring corporate communions back. What a great idea for your council in this Year of Faith!

During this Year of Faith, the Ohio State Council has started a diocese chaplains program with the goal of improving chaplain involvement in our councils and enhancing our member’s spirituality and knowledge of our Faith. The group’s first challenge is planning a statewide Lenten Retreat. State Chaplain Father Ron Williams and fellow priests from four other dioceses have developed the retreat’s theme “*Porta Fidei*”, or *Door of Faith*. It’s been decades since the State Council sponsored a retreat, but what better time than during the Year of Faith.

The retreat’s date will be Saturday, March 9. The retreat starts at 10 a.m. and concludes with a 4 p.m. Mass. The retreat will be held at Bishop Ready High School in Columbus. Details will follow in coming days.

This retreat would make a great spiritual activity for each Ohio council, a real way to celebrate the Year of Faith as Knights of Columbus. Figure out a carpool plan and bring members to this great spiritual opportunity. Prospective members are welcome – the Door of Faith is open!

As we begin this important spiritual journey, evaluate how your council can participate. Consider how your council can improve the prayer and spiritual life of every member!

Vivat Jesus.

Studenic named Master of Ohio District 1

William Studenic, Jr., has been named Fourth Degree Master of Ohio District 1, which encompasses the Cleveland and Youngstown dioceses. He succeeds George Bodajlo, who served as Master for the past four years. Studenic served as Executive Director, Cleveland Diocese, to Bodajlo during those four years.

Studenic and his wife, Kathleen, have been married 35 years and have two children. They reside in Wooster.

He is a member of Wooster Council 789 and Msgr. Hannon Assembly 843, Wooster, and is a graduate of Notre Dame University.



The Buckeye Bulletin

State Chaplain

Fr. Ron Williams
5924 Bridgetown Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45248-3108
Tel: (513) 574-1230
Email: [fater.ronw@gmail.com](mailto:father.ronw@gmail.com)

State Treasurer

Robert Collins Jr.
10181 Tracy Trail
Parma, OH 44130-5210
Tel: (440) 888-8909
Email: clnsbbb@aol.com

Immediate Past State Deputy

Paul Upman
4838 Skipper Ct.
Maumee, OH 43537
Tel: (419) 878-2477
Email: pupman@accesstoledo.com

State Deputy

Dave Helmstetter
5421 County Rd. 33A
St. Marys, OH 45885-9658
Tel: (419) 394-1180
Email: dhelmstetter@woh.rr.com

State Advocate

Kevin Miller
1101 Arbor Oaks Lane
Galloway, OH 43119-8507
Tel: (614) 853-2642
Email: km8007@sbegloval.net

Chief of Staff

James Deime
5734 Shadow Oaks P.
Kettering, OH 45440-2712
Tel: (937) 433-8595
Email: deimej@aol.com

State Secretary

Ken Girt
6433 Lutz Ave. N.W.
Massillon, OH 44646-9341
(330) 837-6670
girtken@ssnet.com

State Warden

Robert Byers
565 Indian Run Rd.
Marietta, OH 45750-6693
Tel: (740) 373-7154
Email: robert_byers@hotmail.com

Buckeye Bulletin Editor

Harding Christ
32649 Surrey Lane
Avon Lake, OH 44012-1642
Tel: (440) 933-8986
Email: harding_c@oh.rr.com

The Buckeye Bulletin is published by the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus and mailed via Third Class Non-Profit Postage, Permit No. 229, at Cleveland, Ohio. Any member of the Ohio State Council in good standing may subscribe free of charge.

Editorial Content

Forward all editorial content to Harding Christ, Editor, 32649 Surrey Lane, Avon Lake, OH 44012-1642.

Subscription Status Address Change

Forward all requests for new subscriptions, changes of address or cancellation to Harding Christ. New subscriptions must include the full 9-digit Zip Code.

Fr. Snoke retires

Continued from Page 1

2003 and back surgery earlier this year, spending a month recovering in Columbus. In November he had more surgery on his hip, and is scheduled to have new hip replacement surgery in early January.

* * *

Columbus Diocese rules limit most pastors to 12 years in one parish, but allow for year-by-year exceptions. Fr. Snoke would have reached the 12-year mark in 1999, but more than 120 parishioners petitioned Bishop James Griffin at that time to waive the limit, which the Bishop granted.

Fr. Snoke reached out to many people of the Danville community, Catholics and non-Catholics alike. He worked with ADAM, the Association of Danville Area Ministers, which in 1995 founded The Sanctuary, a center for community programs that for many years was located in a former Church of Christ across from St. Luke's (and recently moved to a new location). The Sanctuary, not affiliated with any churches, and Danville Interchurch Social Services, a faith-based group, combine to provide food and clothing for the needy of the community, as well as offering space for health, literacy, legal aid and other services.

* * *

Fr. Snoke was born on Sept. 17, 1935, in his grandparents' house, to Floyd Richard Sr. and Kathryn Lucille Snoke. His grandparents, Charles Everett and Orpha Elizabeth Snoke, lived on the 350-acre farm. When Fr. Snoke was one year old, his parents moved into a new home on the edge of the Snoke farm, where his father lived until his death in 2004. Fr. Snoke was the oldest of six children – two brothers, Kenny (who is deceased) and Gene (who still runs a garage on the homestead), and three sisters: Marilyn, Mickey (Melissa) and Mary Ann.

Fr. Snoke attended St. Mary's Elementary School and St. Mary's High School in Lancaster. After high school graduation in 1953 he began to work at RBM Essex Wire Corporation. He left to enroll at The Ohio State University, Columbus, entering the College of Agriculture to develop his love of the earth. During his college years



Fr. Snoke served as State Chaplain for State Deputy Gary Eckstein (left).

he would return home in the summer months to work on his grandfather's farm and neighboring farms. He also worked as a substitute mail carrier during the summer and holidays.

It was at this time that he felt God was calling him to serve his people. So after two years at Ohio State he entered St. Charles Borromeo Seminary School in Columbus. In 1961 he earned an AB degree in Liberal Arts.

While at St. Charles, he was chosen to pursue undergraduate studies in the Classics at Ohio State during the summer months. His theological training was at Mount St. Mary of the West in Norwood, Ohio, and while there he pursued studies at Xavier University, receiving a Masters of Education degree in the Classics and Administration in 1969.

He was ordained on May 29, 1965, in St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus, by Bishop John Carberry, who later became Cardinal Carberry of St. Louis.

After ordination, and before his pastorate at Danville St. Luke, Fr. Snoke's assignments have included associate pastor at St. Leo Parish, Columbus, where he also taught religion at Bishop Hartley High School and at Father Wehrle High School; chaplain at Mercy Hospital in Columbus, when he also helped out at St. Catherine Parish in Bexley; assistant principal and religion teacher at DeSales High School in Columbus; assistant principal and athletic director at Bishop Watterson High School while celebrating Mass at St. James the Less, Columbus; pastor at St. Rose of Lima, in New Lexington, remaining there for 10 years. It was after that assignment that he was named pastor of St. Luke's in Danville.

At St. Luke's he initiated a number of new programs, among them the R.C.I.A. process preparing persons for the Catholic faith; periodic retreats for the parish during Lent and Advent, guiding the parish in celebrating the RENEW program, holding Life in the Spirit seminars. He led the effort to remodel St. Luke Church, encouraged formation of a Bereavement Ministry, sponsored seminarians for the summer. He was a vital part of the T.E.C (Teens Encounter Christ) program. He led Cursillo, Marriage Encounter and many youth retreats. He also participated in the taping of a televised Sunday Mass for those who were not able to attend Mass.

Fr. Snoke became active in the Danville area community soon after his arrival at St. Luke's. He became a member of the Knox County Educational Business Advisory Council for the Knox County Career



Fr. Snoke always has had time for some fun with the Ohio State Council officers.

Center; he participated in workshops for hospice; he was a long-time member of the Drug and Alcohol Freedom Center Board of Directors, serving as chairman of the personnel committee and president of the board. He was instrumental along with other ministers of A.D.A.M. in reinstating the Baccalaureate ceremony for graduating Danville and East Knox graduates.

There are numerous other accomplishments Fr. Snoke achieved during this time in Danville which touched many lives. Sum it up to say that in his time as a priest, he has served as an associate pastor, pastor, assistant principal, principal, athletic director, religion teacher, guidance counselor and hospital chaplain. He has



Fr. Snoke – his ordination photo

been a friend and confidant to the many people who have come into his life.

* * *

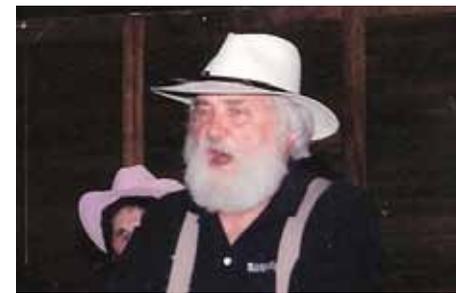
Having grown up on a farm, Fr. Snoke always has enjoyed gardening. At St. Luke's, there always have been flowers planted around the church grounds. At one time he did his gardening in five plots around the Danville area. He continues to garden back at the family homestead.

The parishioners at St. Luke's once gave him a small greenhouse. When he retired, that greenhouse was transferred to the home in Lancaster. A storm damaged it somewhat, but friends fixed it up.

* * *

Fr. Snoke, of course, has had a major impact on the Ohio Knights of Columbus for years. He was State Chaplain during the administration of State Deputy Gary Eckstein in 2005-2007. He has been Chaplain of Danville Council 910 and a Fourth Degree Sir Knight.

But his first love has been the kids – the



Columbian Squires.

Ohio's Knights attending various statewide meetings always look forward to Fr. Snoke's booming voice as he takes the podium and talks about the Squires.

"These young men are the Knights of tomorrow. They are our future. They are the leaders of the future," he would stress in every speech. "Form a Squires Circle in your councils. Watch these boys turn into men."

Fr. Snoke has guided the Ohio Squires as Father Prior for more than 25 years, working with a number of State Squires Directors, currently Marty Schumacher. Others include Dean Summers, Bob Collins, Ralph Gels, Marvin Vetter, and George Bodajlo. Back in Danville, he was Father Prior for the Bishop George A. Fulcher Jr. Columbian Squires Circle at St. Luke Parish.

"He is a magnificent man," said Schumacher. "Everything he does for the Church and the Squires comes from his heart."

Tommy Petrushka, the current State Chief Squire, also has love and respect for Fr. Snoke.

"He is such a major influence in my life," Tommy said. "He is a true disciple; a light of God that shines on so many people. I love Father for his humbleness, his passion to both lead and to be a true lamb of God, as well as his love for those around him. I am so thankful that God blessed me with such a wonderful light in my life."

As for the future, Fr. Snoke vows to continue as Father Prior of the State Squires Circle "as long as my health permits it".

* * *

Fr. Snoke was hospitalized in November, and currently is staying in Columbus. Brother Knights are encouraged to send cards and, of course, pray for his recovery. His current address is: Fr. F. Richard Snoke, c/o Mother Angeline McCrory Manor, 5199 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43213.

Thoughts about life

Willoughby, Ohio (Cleveland Diocese) police officer Jason Gresko died Sept. 21 when his police cruiser collided with another vehicle while proceeding to an emergency call. He was the brother of Nick Gresko, our Ohio Knights of Columbus District Deputy Coordinator for the Cleveland Diocese. The following are Brother Nick's thoughts about the tragedy.

By Nick Gresko

First of all, I want to say "thank you" to all of the councils and Brother Knights throughout Ohio for the many phone calls, emails, and cards I received after the sudden loss of my brother, Willoughby Police Officer Jason Gresko, who died in the line of duty. I can't begin to tell you how thankful my family and I are for the councils and Brother Knights across the great State of Ohio. I especially would like to thank the Ohio State Council for the flowers sent to the funeral home, and the State Officers and Directors who attended the wake or funeral. Many councils and chapters recited the rosary for my brother. I have received many phone calls from third degree captains asking if they could do a third degree in honor of my brother. To those degree team captains: Thank You!

My sister-in-law and her mother told me many times that they knew little about the Knights of Columbus, but from what they have seen it is one great organization. All of these things, as well as the flowers sent to the house and to the funeral home, as well as the donation to Jason's memorial fund, mean the world to us.

This tragic event gave me a lot of time to think and evaluate. I have come up with the following thoughts that I hope will inspire you to strengthen relationships with your loved ones.

If I knew it would be the last time that I'd see you fall asleep. I would tuck you in more tightly, and pray the Lord your soul to keep.

If I knew it would be the last time that I would see you walk out the door, I would give you a hug and kiss, and call you back for one more.

If I knew it would be the last time I'd hear your voice lifted up in praise, I would video tape each action and word, so I could play them back day after day.

If I knew it would be the last time I could spare an extra minute or two to stop and say, "I love you," instead of assuming, you would KNOW I do.

If I knew it would be the last time I would be there to share your day well, I'm sure you'll have many more, so I can let this one just slip away.

For surely there's always tomorrow, to make up for an oversight. We always get a second chance, to make everything right. There will always be another day, to say our "I love you," And certainly there's another chance to say our "Anything I can do for you?"

But just in case I might be wrong, and today is all I get, I'd like to say how much I love you, and I hope we never forget.

Tomorrow is not promised to anyone, young or old alike. Today may be the last chance you get to hold your loved one tight.

So if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today. For if tomorrow never comes, you'll surely regret the day that you didn't take that extra time for a smile, a hug, or a kiss; that you were too busy to grant someone what turned out to be their one last wish.

So hold your loved ones close today; whisper in their ear, telling them how much you love them, and that you'll always hold them dear.

Take time to say "I'm sorry," "please forgive me," "thank you" or "it's okay." And if tomorrow never comes, you'll have no regrets about today.

Jason was not only an awesome husband, father, son, brother, grandson and cousin, but from this day forward in my eyes he is also a hero! Today I know that Jason's love is as strong as ever. I know he is looking over us, and we have one heck of a man that will make sure each of us is protected and safe.

From my family and I let me tell all of the councils and Brother Knights in Ohio we love you and thank you for all of your support!



Ohio Knights . . .

Taking Up His Cross

The goal of this Buckeye Bulletin feature is to incorporate activities that Ohio Knights and Ohio Councils do throughout the fraternal year. We invite councils to send information for inclusion in this feature. Send to: Harding Christ, Editor; Buckeye Bulletin, 32649 Surrey Lane, Avon Lake, OH 44012-1642. Email: harding.c@oh.rr.com. Councils that submit articles for the Buckeye Bulletin can claim credit for Public Relations Activities Program Step #30.

For the third straight year, proceeds from the Wilmington Oktoberfest, annually hosted by Wilmington Council 3369, set a record, raising \$11,165, with the designated nonprofit recipient being this year being the Community Care Hospice, located in Wilmington. The funds will go toward patient care We've often said that public relations is so very important to everything we as Knights of Columbus do. Knights in the Mansfield area certainly saw some great PR in the local newspaper, the Mansfield News-Journal, when columnist Ron Simon wrote about their special population free throw "contest" for children and adults with developmental disabilities St. Martin DePorres Council 5624, Cincinnati, held a Past Grand Knight Gala and Ball to commemorate its 47th Anniversary. Members put together a program book, which included a complete history of the council and Saint Martin DePorres.

Brother Knights of Immaculate Heart of Mary Council 472, Wintersville, and their guests had a surprise in store for them when attending the council's annual Steak Fry dinner on Sept. 27. All preparations had been made and guests were being served when lights in the council hall began to flicker once twice and then total darkness. There had been a rainstorm earlier that afternoon, but that had ended. Through some investigation, it was discovered that a tractor-trailer had damaged a nearby utility pole and caused an outage in the area. So inside the building Grand Knight Don Hall and Council Activities Director Rocco Autori placed dozens of "tea lights" on the tables while Brother Knight Lou Almonte ran an extension cord to a power inverter on his truck and connected two table lamps so Brother Joe Gabrielli could continue serving food. In the end, the diners enjoyed the romantic atmosphere and memorable evening.

Fr. Anthony Wolf Council 4378, Russells Point, annually holds a "First Picnic" during the month of February. Summer attire is welcomed Steven Siesel, a former Ohio District Deputy in the Toledo Diocese and staffer on the Ohio State Council team now living in Florida, is

bragging about his council. He was Grand Knight of Council 7091 last fraternal year in the Orlando Diocese, and it was recognized as a Star Council. He says "hello" to all his friends in his home state The Mantua Council 3766 Knights celebrated August as Family Month, and on Aug. 12 they gathered at St. Joseph Church as 18 couples renewed their marriage vows during Mass. Following Mass they enjoyed breakfast at the K of C Hall Knights of Father Sourd Council 2423, Fayetteville, donated 200 pork sandwiches to veterans at the Ohio Veterans Home in Georgetown on Aug. 10. This is an annual event for the council to show their appreciation for the veterans. The staff at the Veterans Home served the sandwiches at a picnic-style luncheon.

Knights of Council 5582, Navarre, refurbished an ice cream barn owned by a local parishioner. It's built on a trailer and used by the parish and other nearby parishes for fundraisers. And during the last week of August, the council chaired the ice cream fundraiser at the Stark County Fair Sacred Heart Council 14671, Cardington, raised funds at the Fourth Annual Morrow Co. Strongest Contest, held in conjunction with the Mt. Gilead Corn Fest, to improve the ball fields in Johnsville and Iberia Knights of St. Marys-Orwell Council 5589 helped Sacred Heart Parish in Rock Creek with a drainage issue to divert water from the church foundation Madonna Council 3891, Cincinnati, held a Community Fundraiser in September at the local Bob Evans restaurant to support the Mt. Healthy Alliance, Inc., Food Bank The first Sunday of August each year is known as Friendship Sunday all over the world, and St. Leonard Council 12641, Heath, prepared an All You Could Eat Pancake and Sausage Breakfast for parishioners and their friends on Aug. 5 Father Ragan Council 3269, Avon, held a special Council Picnic on Aug. 16. Lecturer PGK Ted Schmitz invited veteran members who no longer are very active, along with widows of deceased Knights. The gathering included 22 members who have served as Grand Knights.

Knights of Columbus Insurance

Don't drag your feet on long-term insurance

By James Valent, FICF, General Agent
State Insurance Liaison

There are very few people who do not have a "Long Term Care Experience" somewhere in their family – a loved one in a nursing home facility, or a family member being cared for at home because of advancing age; a disability, or both. If you have heard of, or undergone this situation, you know firsthand the catastrophic effects these events can have on a family, crossing all generations.

What you may not know about is the urgency of taking action. The ability to buy long-term care insurance is based on your health. Putting the decision off, "waiting until next year" or otherwise dragging your feet, can be problematic.

You never know when your health could change and make you ineligible for coverage. In addition, the required premium commitment increases every year with your age, while you wait.

Did you know the average stay in a nursing home lasts three years and that cost could quickly surpass \$200,000? How would you pay for this? How would this affect your family? Can your family handle the responsibility, and do you want to place that burden on them? Are you relying on government subsidies to take care of you?

Do you want peace of mind and security? Do you want to maintain your dignity and choice of care options? Do you want to preserve your lifetime earnings/savings? Have you minimized the risks against your estate?

Yes, I know there a lot of questions here, and many are difficult to answer. But we can help provide some insight into one of the best options available to you and your wife through our Order.

Long-term care insurance can protect you against the ever-rising costs of care. An LTC policy can keep the burden of care off of your family. This allows your wife to remain your wife and not become your caregiver (or you to remain her husband and not patient or caregiver). With an LTC policy, you remain in control of your dignity, and how and where you get care.

The Knights of Columbus can serve as a valuable resource for long term care planning, providing answers to questions you might have and affordable coverage options tailored to your needs.

Peace of Mind and Trust. Contact an Agent today. Time is not on your side.

Mission Possible

**Agent #1,000,000 is looking for special Charity Agents
In Knights of Columbus councils throughout Ohio**

By Bob (Agent #1,000,000) Collins

State Treasurer/2012 Super Cash Bonanza Chairman

I will be on the lookout for some special Charity Agents at all the local councils throughout the State of Ohio to help with a mission of Charity.

The mission, if accepted; will be to raise charitable dollars that will benefit the many worthy causes in the communities, councils, and parishes across Ohio. The goal will be \$1,000,000 in the sale of Super Cash Bonanza Charity Raffle Tickets. The outlook is positive, and it is a "Mission Possible".

Many who have chaired the Super Cash Bonanza Campaign have tried to obtain this lofty goal. I have called upon each and every one of them and am asking them for their advice. Even with the knowledge of those who have gone before me, I will need the support of everyone at all the councils throughout Ohio. If this mission is to be a success we all need to partner together to make this a "Mission Possible" for the charitable causes in Ohio.

I have been in contact with my predecessors -- Junior Big Bucks, The Nutty Professor, Howdy Partner, and Mr. Ben Cartwright himself -- to help formulate the plan for the mission ahead.

If everyone agrees and is willing to work together on this mission I will explain everything about the mission to you and all the other Top and Secret Agents during the weekends of February 15, 16 & 17 and 22, 23 & 24.

I will soon be contacting all of the Top Agents at the councils in Ohio with ways to help make our mission a success.

Remember: the mission is to raise \$1,000,000 for charity in Ohio. And it is a "Mission Possible".

Oh yes, I almost forgot. The name's Cash; "Super Cash", Agent #1,000,000.



For 30 years, Wickliffe Knights have sponsored Special Olympics

Thirty years 18,000 athletes 21,000 medals 30,000 meals more than 6,000 volunteer hours.

For Wickliffe Council 5405 (Cleveland Diocese) and its Isabella Guild, those numbers are truly meaningful. They sum up 30 years of sponsoring the Ohio Special Olympics Area 21 Regional Qualifier.

This year the first number – 30 – took on special meaning as Brother Knights, their families and friends, observed the unique milestone.

Last May 4 the celebrants gathered at a dinner in Wickliffe to dine, to remember, and to finalize plans for the following day's Special Olympics. At the dinner, Past Grand Knight Earl McFarland, who spearheaded the council's original participation in the Special Olympics and who has served as coordinator for the past 30 years, observed that a generational torch has been passed. Sons and daughters of long-time members are now key volunteers for the event. At the same time, Brother Knights have not missed a year, and still are volunteering to this day.

For these Knights, this is one of the most important events of the fraternal year. This activity involves not only Wickliffe Council, but also the Isabella Guild, the football field and gymnasium of Wickliffe High School as well as the school's marching band, the local American Legion Post 7, the Wickliffe Italian and American Club, and local restaurants that in the past have donated food and other related supplies. McFarland estimates that the council itself has donated expenses exceeding \$45,000 over the 30 years.

As in most years, this year's event started with a parade of athletes around the track led by a contingent of Sir Knights, mostly from Cardinal Neumann Assembly 837, and escorted by the Wickliffe High School's Marching Band. Following an invocation, the Olympic oath and the National Anthem, the athletes competed in track and field events, volleyball, bocce ball and other events.

All athletes who compete receive either a medal or ribbon and qualify for the State Special Olympics, which is held in June in Columbus.

Following the events and clean-up, most of the Knights, ladies and other volunteers convene for refreshments at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Wickliffe, the home of the council.

Free Throw time is just around the corner

Most of the councils throughout Ohio annually host a local basketball free throw contest. Councils should now be ordering their "Free Throw" kits from Supreme council and making arrangements for the use of a local gym for their Free Throw competition.

All local Free Throw competitions should be held during the month of January and must be completed by Jan. 27, 2013. You can order a Free Throw Kit by submitting the form by mail, or it can be done online at the Supreme website at www.kofc.org. Go to "Publications and Resources", "Forms", "Council", then scroll down the list to find "Free Throw Competition Kit."

District Deputies should schedule their District Free Throw competition from Feb. 1st thru Feb 10th. All District Deputies will receive a set of Free Throw medals for their District winners at the January State District Deputy meeting in Columbus. District Deputy Coordinators will also receive their Regional Free throw trophies at the January District Deputies' meeting.

– Jeff Kiliany, State Youth Director

Check out the Ohio State Council Website

www.kofcohio.org

State General Program Director

Here's some tips to achieve Star Council status

By Larry (Dynamo) Drosch, State General Program Director

The Dynamo wants to help Ohio Councils meet the requirements for Star Council. Instead of forcing a council to do 'extra' Supreme program activities, in addition to the Dynamic General Program activities, just to qualify for the Columbian Award Application (the Program portion of the Star Council Award), the Dynamo and Dynamic Directors will now allow councils to use a Featured Program for both! Woo Hoo!

The Featured Programs from Supreme and the Ohio Dynamic General Program are two separate award programs but have some similarities that can cross over to help a council meet the Star Council Award requirements.

The Order's eight "Featured Programs" provide councils with two ways to qualify for the Star Council Award. Traditionally, a council sponsors four programs in each of the six Service Program categories (Church, community, council, family, culture of life (pro-life) and youth activities), and reports them on the Columbian Award Application (SP-7), due by June 30. The second way to qualify is to sponsor one or more of the eight "Featured Programs," and meet the minimum participation criteria for that program. This fulfills all four Columbian Award requirements in the Service Program category.

A council does not need to conduct all eight. For example, if a council participates in RSVP and sponsors a Coats for Kids distribution, they've met all the requirements in the Church and youth categories. To qualify for the Columbian Award, they would report these programs, plus the four that they sponsored in the four remaining categories, on the Columbian Award application.

During the 2012-2013 Fraternal Year, the Ohio Dynamic General Program will welcome these Supreme "Featured Programs" as part of their Steps. If a council claims (and reports online) one of the Featured Programs, they still must complete the other three non-mandatory and one Mandatory Step to Max the State General Program in that category. In addition, the council still must fill out the SP7 Columbian Award Application by June 30 with the Featured Programs reported and send it separately to Supreme.

The Featured Programs from Supreme and the Ohio Dynamic General Program are two separate programs but have some similarities that can cross over to help a council meet the Star Council Award requirements. The Featured Programs saves councils from having to write down four completed activities on the SP7 form when applying for tStar Council.

The eight "Featured Programs" are listed below with Supremes' minimum participation criteria for each, and also lists which Ohio Dynamic General Program STEP NUMBER you can use when filling out the online report form for that category:

Church – (1) RSVP (report under Ohio General Program Step #10 RSVP Support Seminarians & Religious – due April 15): Qualify for and receive the refund for supporting at least one seminarian or postulant.

Community – (2) Habitat for Humanity or (3) Wheel Chair Foundation (report either under Ohio General Program Step #12 Care for our Less Fortunate Friends OR Steps #17 or #18 Council Choices):

- Council sponsors at least one Habitat project providing a minimum of 200 man-hours of service and donates at least \$1000 to Habitat.
- Council raises the funds for 100 wheelchairs at \$150 – distributed by the Global Wheelchair Mission.

Council – (4) Special Olympics (report under Ohio General Program Steps #29 or #30 Council Choices):

- Contribute at least 200 man-hours of service to state/local Special Olympics activities; donate at least \$2,000 for Special Olympics.

Family – (5) Food for Families (report under Ohio General Program Step #38 Caring for the Community OR Steps #39 or #40 Council Choices):

- Council provides 100 man-hours of service and collects at least 1,000 pounds of food to be given to a parish food pantry or community food bank.

Culture of Life (Pro-life) – (6) March for Life or (7) Ultrasound Initiative (report either under Ohio General Program Step #43 March for Life/Rally for Life OR Steps #49 or #50 Council Choices):

- Council organizes parish and community participation to provide at least 100 marchers for a local, regional or national *March for Life* on or around January 25, 2013 – the 40th Anniversary.
- Council raises at least half the funds for purchase of **ultrasound** equipment for a pregnancy care center (balance from Supreme Council)

Youth – (8) Coats for Kids (report under Ohio General Program Steps #59 or #60 Council Choices):

- Council purchases at least 8 cases of warm winter coats through Coats for Kids to give to needy kids.



A Teddy Bear Run

Knights of Los Caballeros DeSandusky County Council 15036 tried something different last August. They called it a Teddy Bear Run, a motorcycle ride fundraiser. The ride was open to the public and involved riders taking teddy bears, or other stuffed toys, to put smiles on the faces of children at two area hospitals – Fremont Memorial Hospital and Bellevue Hospital. Together there were 24 motorcycles and 36 riders in the ride. A collection of money and canned food also was taken to give to a family in Oak Harbor that lost their home in a fire and who suffered severe burns. Coordinating the event was council Chancellor Jose Garcia.

'No one can be perfect'

The following was submitted by DD-73 Robert Simon, Grand Knight of St. Robert Bellarmine Council 11646. His granddaughter, Lauren Kello, a freshman last school year at Howland High School (Youngstown Diocese), wrote the following as an English class composition. It was published as a Letter to the Editor in the Youngstown Diocese's publication, the Catholic Exponent. Linda Kello, who has Down Syndrome, last school year was a student at Howland Middle School. Their father, Mark Kello, is a member of St. Robert Bellarmine Council 11646, Cortland. The letter demonstrates why the Knights of Columbus works so hard to help those with developmental disabilities through its Measure-Up Campaign.

"After going through life pointed at and having few friends, kids with disabilities still manage to want to go to school. Some have so much desire towards going to school and learning new things. Kids can be very mean at times and they don't realize it. 'Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me' is not a good saying, because words sometimes hurt more.

"It is not their fault that they were born with a few flaws. No one can be perfect. Children without disabilities may feel like they are better than some children and think that it's OK to talk about the disabled. Disabled people may have a harder time focusing and completing tasks, so they have to concentrate and practice three times harder than an average person.

"Even though some kids are limited in their abilities, they don't let that get in the way of having fun. Sometimes kids might have disorders, but they don't let that get in the way, because they have so much perseverance and motivation, which can really drive a person to accomplish what they want most. For people with disabilities, perseverance really shows through.

"Life is full of complications and problems and it is not always easy to overcome them. As Lance Armstrong once said, 'Pain is temporary. It may last a minute, or an hour, or a day, or a year, but eventually it will subside and something else will take its place. If I quit, however, it lasts forever'. This quote is very touching to many. Life may not always be good, so accept things as they come. Chances are, other people are going through the same problems.

"Linda Kello is a child that was born with Down Syndrome. Many people feel bad for her, but they shouldn't, because she doesn't let people affect her and she actually has fun in life. Most people are nice to her and she gets good grades in school. When she comes home, she does her homework and studies. She is a very responsible person. I am her sister and I know that she can have a temper at times, so she can be hard to handle. Linda does listen to her teachers and she respects mostly everyone. Along with a kind heart, Linda is a regular child on the inside with a few flaws on the outside.

"All together, if you have flaws, you will be treated differently, but you have to learn that there will always be a person who thinks it's OK to go along and make fun of someone you deeply care about. The best advice to dealing with rude people is to just ignore them and if you can't contain yourself, go to the guidance office at your school. They will help a great deal. You might feel like a tattletale, but you will feel better afterwards. Linda Kello wishes to have a family when she grows up, even though she probably will not. She also wishes to marry Robert Pattinson, but what teenage girl doesn't? I respect Linda because of all the hard things she's gone through. In the end, I am happy she is my sister. I don't think I would have the same respect for disabled people if it weren't for her. I have her for her, and it will be like that forever."

2013 Membership Incentive Program:

Follow the Cross to new members

Last summer, the councils of Ohio were asked to put together their “*Great Ohio Membership Crusade*” Membership Plan. More than 160 councils submitted the plan to State Membership Director Ken Gardner, documenting the programs and events they would use to recruit new members. They also listed a schedule of Open Houses and Church Drives they would hold quarterly to recruit new members, and recorded the skills and qualities they would look for in new members.

This Membership Plan is each council’s “**Treasure Map**” -- their key to finding the treasure of new members. Many treasure maps are marked with an “X” to show the location of the treasure. Turn an “X” on its side, and you have a Cross!

Recruiting new members is not always easy; it takes some work. Sometimes you need to “**Take Up His Cross**” and hold the programs, plan the degrees, call the candidates, take men to a First Degree, and all the other work that is required to get a man into the order.

For the Third Quarter Membership Incentive Program, we are asking members and councils in Ohio to dust off that Membership Plan and use it to bring new members into our order. We will reward these efforts as follows:

- **Any Member** who, using one of the activities listed in the Council Membership Plan, brings a new member into the order during January, February, or March will be placed in a drawing for \$200. **To enter this drawing, the member will need to email the following information to Ken Gardner:**
 - Sponsoring Members Name (your name)
 - Recruited Members Name (new member)
 - Date New Member received the First Degree
 - Activity the New Member was Recruited at
- **Any Council** that, using the activities listed in the Council Membership Plan, brings in at least three members during January, February, and/or March will be placed in a drawing for \$200. **To enter this drawing, the Grand Knight, Membership Director, or Financial Secretary will need to email the following information to Ken Gardner:**
 - Names of Three Recruited Members
 - Dates Three New Members received the First Degree
 - Activity the Three New Members were Recruited at
- **Any District Deputy** that has at least 75% of the active councils in his district bring in at least one new member during the period of January-March will be placed in a drawing for \$100. **The entry will be the Supreme Council Membership report for these three months.**

Please note that for the Member and Council drawing, the information listed above **MUST** be emailed to Ken Gardner at kpgardner@fuse.net by April 10, 2013, or can be mailed to Ken Gardner, 321 Greenwell Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45238.

Several Councils on track for Golden Cross Award

Remember the Golden Cross Award announced on tour and earlier this fraternal year?

For the 2012-13 fraternal year, the Ohio State Council is offering this SPECIAL award for those councils that find the GOLD TREASURE of new members. Every council in Ohio that brings in 50 members (above suspensions and withdraws) by May 1, 2013, and maintains it until June 30, 2013, will receive the GOLDEN CROSS AWARD, taking home \$1000 and a trip for its Grand Knight to the 2013 Ohio State Council Convention at Kalahari Resort in Sandusky. The first council to do this in the state will receive \$1500 plus adding the council Membership Director to the free trip!

As of Nov. 1, two new councils are on track to achieve this award -- St. Dominic-Delhi Council 15533, with plus-20 net gain, and St. Ambrose Council 15569, with plus-21 net gain. Several other councils are just short of being on track for this award. These include Father Regan Council 3269, with 12 net gain, and Holy Family Council 15573, with 12 net gain.

With a 100% effort recruiting by all members of the council, ANY council in Ohio could be \$1000.00 richer on May 1.

* * *

Is your council on track from ONE MEMBER ... PER COUNCIL ... PER MONTH?

The following 32 councils are currently on pace to NET One Member, Per Council, Per Month: 687, 774, 910, 957, 1341, 1362, 1641, 1750, 3269, 3904, 4130, 4324, 4471, 4603, 5253, 5405, 9804, 11188, 11275, 11355, 11450, 13081, 13874, 14255, 14344, 14502, 15023, 15086, 15458, 15533, 15569, 15573.

Ohio State Council Membership as of November 15, 2012

Diocese	Quota	Year to Date Gain	Year to Date Loss	Net	Percent of Quota	Needed
Cincinnati	457	111	39	+72	15.8%	385
Cleveland	321	109	176	-67	-20.9%	388
Columbus	282	115	96	+19	6.7%	263
Steubenville	79	56	33	+23	29.1%	56
Toledo	417	98	123	-25	-6.0%	442
Youngstown	213	65	28	+37	17.4%	176
TOTALS	1,675	1,195	568	+627	37.4%	1,048

Do you know where your Membership Plan Is?

Continued from Page 1

A piece of paper with words on it is only as valuable as the action that carries it through. If the plan was simply completed and set aside in September, it cannot reach fruition.

Was your plan shared with the Brother Knights of your council? Are the quarterly goals being tracked and reported at meetings? Are the planned Open Houses and Church Drives being executed? Are you actively recruiting at the programs that make you visible in the parish and community? Are your members ASKING Catholic men to join our order?

If you cannot answer YES to all of these questions, your plan may not produce the new members needed to meet the second requirement of Step #61, namely achieving a net gain of +5 members by the May 1, 2013, Supreme Council Membership Report. If your council reported submission of your Membership Plan as Step #61 on State Council Program Reporting website, you received 125 points of preliminary credit for this program. In order to keep these points at the end of the fraternal year, your council must complete Part Two of the requirements.

What your council created with its Membership Plan was a Treasure Map to find the treasure of a new member. If you follow the map, it will lead your members to the treasure we need so desperately in Ohio, membership growth in our order!

So get out that Membership Plan, dust it off, promote it within your council, and drive it to success. Remember the old football cheer “You got that ball, now go!” Well, the same thing can be said about the Membership Plan your council created a few months ago, “You got that Membership Plan, now go get those new members!”

Ohio’s Top 5 in Membership

Following are the Top Five councils in each division that have brought in the most NET members as of Nov. 1, 2012.

Cincinnati Diocese		Cleveland Diocese	
Council	NewMem.	Council	NewMem.
15533 St. Dominic-Delhi	20	3269 Father Ragan	12
11355 St. Maximilian Kole	4	774 Elyria	8
13674 St. Paul	4	14355 St. Sebastian	7
1272 Wapakoneta	3	4130 Garfield Heights	4
3123 Msgr. Gerdes	3	5405 Wickliffe	4
13429 St. Margaret of York	2	15023 St. Gregory the Great	4
14504 Fr. Francis X Hoffer	3		
Columbus Diocese		Steubenville Diocese	
5253 St. Andrew H. Hohman	7	15569 St. Ambrose	21
1341 Discovery	5	1641 Cambridge	6
4324 Ascension	5	9804 Bishop John King Mussio	4
11188 Miraculous Medal	5	2565 Fr. Klueber	2
13061 Holy Trinity	5	4617 St. John of Beverly	2
Toledo Diocese		Youngstown Diocese	
14344 East Toledo	8	15573 Holy Family	12
14502 Blessed John XXIII	8	4471 Poland	4
3904 St. Jude	7	15086 Immaculaa	4
957 Leo	5	15458 St. Michael the Archangel	4
1362 Ray McKowen	5	4733 Holy Martyrs	3
1750 Port Clinton	5	7491 John K. Mahaney	3
		13677 St. Joseph	3

It’s OK to Say Merry Christmas to Me

Last year Our Lady of Peace Council 4243, St. Clairsville, shared its special Christmas season project with Knights all over Ohio through the Buckeye Bulletin.

Designed to Keep Christ in Christmas, the project consists of a colorful, Christmas season badge which includes the statement, “It’s OK to Say Merry Christmas to Me” -- countering the secular move to have God removed from Christmas and non-use of the word “Christmas”. The council members passed out these badges to parishioners of St. Mary Church in St. Clairsville during the Christmas season.



Mingo Junction Grand Knight Shawn Zarych stands with the items collected for distribution to Hurricane Sandy victims.

Mingo Junction Knights aid hurricane victims

When Hurricane Sandy hit the East Coast and the news of devastation in New York and New Jersey became known, the Knights of Msgr. Joseph Dooley Council 4361, Mingo Junction (Steubenville Diocese) sprung into action.

In one week, they collected canned goods, food, water, clothing and money (more than \$2,600), loaded a 53-foot panel truck and drove it to New Jersey and New York to assist those in need.

Brother Knight Louis Kakascik, who spearheaded the project, was the driver, with truck owner Larry Mitchell his passenger. Frank Digeorge and Richard Herrick followed them to assist with the unloading.

“Even during hard times here in our community, residents once again opened their hearts to give so much to help others,” said Grand Knight Shawn Zarych. “We are thankful to all the volunteers, Brother Knights, wives and widows who worked tirelessly for the success of this undertaking.”

Supreme initiates Hurricane Sandy relief efforts

In response to the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council, in conjunction with local and state councils across the Northeast of the United States, has joined the relief efforts.

Supreme Council, immediately following the hurricane, made a \$100,000 donation, giving \$50,000 each to the state councils of New York and New Jersey to assist local relief efforts in those hardest-hit jurisdictions. In addition, Supreme Council launched an online donation drive, soliciting contributions from its members and the general public, vowing that 100% of the proceeds would go directly to the relief efforts in local communities.

“Knights have a long tradition of providing disaster relief,” said Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson, “and this is no exception. Our communities need our time, our help and our financial assistance, and we are going to do all that we can, working closely with our local and state councils to help those most in need as a result of the storm.”

Councils asked to submit first half

Pennies for Heaven funds in December

The Ohio State Council’s Pennies for Heaven Campaign continues, and we encourage all councils to **Support Our Seminarians** and help develop vocations in our dioceses. Your first phase turn-in is requested in December, and the Final Phase contributions will be due April 30, 2013. As you know, we have made Pennies for Heaven a full-year program.

Please use the special forms sent to all Grand Knights. Simply cut-off the bottom section, complete and send with your check. Then use the second section of the form for the Final Turn-in. Send your form and your check to: **Ken Girt, State Secretary, 6433 Lutz Ave., NW, Massillon, OH 44646.** If you have misplaced the form, please email me at girtken@sssnet.com and I will send you one.

We can all continue to support our seminarians in three other ways. One is by prayer, and we encourage all councils to say a special prayer for vocations at council meetings. The second is a Christmas card to seminarians from your diocese or local community. Contact your diocesan vocation office for the address of the seminarian you wish to send a card. Have council members sign the card after one of your meetings. The third is our RSVP program. See the Supreme Council website for more details.

Remember that any vocation fundraiser activity may be claimed under the Church Activities Program of the “Take Up His Cross” State Program. Refer to the program book for details. Thank you for your Support for Our Seminarians!

Two Ohio councils provide ultrasound machines for area pregnancy centers

Two Ohio councils have most recently come to the aid of crisis pregnancy centers to help with the purchase of ultrasound machines in the Knights of Columbus Culture of Life program to combat abortions.

St. Francis de Sales Council 14408, Lebanon (Cincinnati Diocese) has enabled the Women’s Center-Lebanon to upgrade its ultrasound technology with a state-of-the-art 4D machine. The Women’s Center is a pro-life pregnancy medical center in Warren County operated by Elizabeth’s New Life Center.

Holy Trinity Council 6373, Bowling Green (Toledo Diocese) has agreed to be the sponsoring council to raise money for an ultrasound machine for the Bowling Green Pregnancy Center.

In Lebanon, St. Francis de Sales Council raised \$23,750 in order to qualify for a “match” of funds from Supreme Council to purchase the upgraded ultrasound machine, which costs \$47,500. To reach the goal, Council Pro-Life Director Darren Szwajkowski spearheaded a “Bottles for Babies” campaign, which brought in nearly \$9,000. The council raised \$12,866, and an individual donor provided \$11,645 to meet the goal.

“We’re delighted with the efforts and generosity of the Knights of Columbus, both the local council and the Supreme Council,” said Alisa Manion, manager of the Women’s Center-Lebanon. “Because this new machine allows us to offer our pregnant clients the best view possible of their unborn babies, we look forward to seeing an increase in the number of babies saved through our center.” The new machine replaced aging equipment at the Lebanon Center with more advanced technology that provides sophisticated and detailed ultrasound imagery.

This is the second machine received at one of the centers operated by Elizabeth’s New Life Center through the Knights of



Holy Trinity Council 6373 members (from left) David Lewis, Mark Lause and Mike Manahan with Bowling Green Pregnancy Center Director Lynette Worthy and the ultrasound machine.

Columbus’ Ultrasound Program. Last Spring, 12 area Knights of Columbus councils raised funds for a new 4D machine for Women’s Center-Sidney. Their contributions also were matched by Supreme Council. And presently, additional Dayton area Knights of Columbus councils are working to raise money to replace aging equipment at Women’s Center-Kettering, which also is operated by Elizabeth’s New Life Center.

In Bowling Green, Holy Trinity Council has established a special fund for purchase of a new machine to replace one that is no longer serviceable. A replacement has been located and will cost approximately \$25,500. To date, the council has raised just over \$13,000, which includes combined donations of \$4,250 from 11 individual council members.

Holy Trinity Council sees it as vitally important to help the pregnancy center, as Bowling Green State University promotes artificial contraception and the morning after pill to its students and actively promotes abortion as the only valid choice for unplanned student pregnancy, according to Holy Trinity Council members.

New Steubenville Diocese Bishop

Most Rev. Jeffrey Marc Monforton was installed Sept. 10 as the fifth Bishop of the Steubenville Diocese.

Bishop Monforton, a native of Detroit, Mich., comes to Steubenville from a pastorate at St. Andrew Parish in Rochester, Mich., the largest parish in the Archdiocese of Detroit. He succeeds Bishop R. Daniel Conlon, who had been installed as Bishop of the Diocese of Joliet, Ill., in July, 2011. Bishop Monforton, 49, was ordained in 1994.

