

SANTA MARIA

FAIRBORN COUNCIL #3724

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS

Star Council 2012-2013, 2014-2015 and 2015-2016

FRATERNAL YEAR 2017-2018 CHARTERED IN OCTOBER 1953 February 2019

Grand Knight's Corner

Last month I talked about concentrating on small kindnesses which I could perform for someone else whether recognized or not. I'd like to add a part two and say that this month I am going to make an effort to start smiling and waving more when people make those same kindnesses to me, let call them small gratitude's. Gratitude from the Latin "gratus" and defined as the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness. I find that to be a good lead in for why I'm grateful for being a Knight. I get to claim membership in a group that does all it can to better and benefit the world in which we live. Whether its on the worldwide, national or local front the Knights of Columbus is a force. Let's talk quickly about your local council. Council 3724 is spread across the United States encompassing nearly 260 members. In direct support of those local councils all over, 3724 has donated 135 pints of blood. 15,000 hours of community service projects, 7,400 hours to family service, nearly 18,000 hours of faith-based service projects, 5,000 hours of service in support of culture of life and 6,000 hours of support to families of the sick and bereaved. Directly to our local parish Mary Help 3724 has provided close to 2,000 hours of labor in renovations to the church and the new FYI center. I am still tallying the amount of money in donations and support 3724 has made to local area charities but we are close to the 30,000.00 mark. How could any member of this council or their family not be proud to be associated with such a fraternity? Council 3724 is a force for good. As Christ himself said, "What you do for the least of my brothers that you do for me." It is an honor and privilege to serve as your grand knight. Use some of those numbers when someone asks you, "What is a Knight, and what do the Knights of Columbus do?" I have spent a lot of time this year looking inward at myself and trying to touch base with some of the tenants of our faith as I remember them from school. This last month I found myself going over the gifts of the Holy Spirit. In the Book of Isaiah 11:2-3, the Gifts of the Holy Spirit are;

Wisdom helps us recognize the importance of others and the importance of keeping God central in our lives.

Understanding is the ability to comprehend the meaning of God's message.

Knowledge is the ability to think about and explore God's revelation, and also to recognize there are mysteries of faith beyond us.

Counsel is the ability to see the best way to follow God's plan when we have choices that relate to him.

Fortitude is the courage to do what one knows is right.

Piety helps us pray to God in true devotion.

Fear of the Lord is the feeling of amazement before God, who is all-present, and whose friendship we do not want to lose.

What are some of the ways we can bring ourselves to a closer understanding of those gifts? I am currently taking a faith-based journey offered as one of the many services by our home parish. Per the guide that came with the course, I think I will be able to work on my Understanding, Knowledge, Counsel and Fear of the Lord in this course alone.

My Knight of the Month was our worthy Treasurer Bro. Larry DeWitt, Larry faithfully writes out the checks for our donations and expenses and spends countless hours in consult with the financial secretary making sure the books are accurate. He is a quiet voice of reason for me and the service he performs is largely unrecognized. Thank you, Larry. My Family of the Month was the Cyphers (Dan and Jana), Dan received Knight of the month earlier this year but the awesome snacks and setup for the get together after the memorial mass and the effort Dan has put in as our new family director could not have achieved success without the help and aid of Jana. Make sure to congratulate them when you see them around the hall or the parish. Ut in omnibus glorificetur Deus Vivat Jesus, GK Erbacher



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Special points of interest

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- Holy Father's Prayer Intention
- St Valentine –the real story

ACTIVITIES

PARISH DINNERS

Your Knights of Columbus Council would like to thank all of our loyal supporters who may have been inconvenienced by our recent dinner cancellation caused by the weather. We want to assure you, however, that you've not missed out on the chance to enjoy our nearly famous Chicken Pot Pie.

Our next Parish Dinner is scheduled for February 9th, and we've decided on using last month's menu. We'll have our nearly famous Chicken Pot Pie, accompanied by a dinner salad and yet another special dessert. As always, you'll get all this for just \$10 for adults \$5 for children. We'll be serving in the Parish Center right after the 4:00 Mass. Come and join your fellow Knights and Parishioners for some good food and even better company, and thank you for your continued support.

BLUE COAT AWARDS-2019

The Council 46th Annual Blue Coat Awards will be held on Thursday March 21, 2019 at the Mary Help of Christians Parish Center. All Officers, Members, Widows and Family Members are encouraged to attend this outstanding community event at no cost. To make your reservation, use the sign-up sheet in the lounge or notify PGK John Wolfe by E-mail at wmc45324jaw@aol.com or call 937-609-4552.

SPRING REVERSE RAFFLE 2019

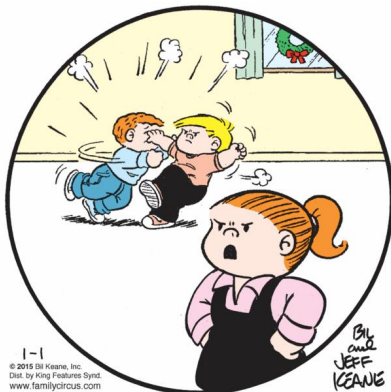
Your Knights of Columbus Council's annual Spring Reverse Raffle will be held on February 23rd. Doors open following the 4:00 mass. Tickets are \$35 which covers 2 adults admission, heavy hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks and a chance to win prizes. A cash bar will be available. The first ticket drawn wins \$100, last ticket drawn wins \$2000. Additional prizes will be awarded throughout the drawing. You need not be present to win. For tickets call PGK Jim McCoy @ 937-879-3570 or PGK Frank Minnick @ 937-522-0866 or email FMINN@aol.com or any of our members.

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS Men of Faith

All Council 3724 Knights are requested and encouraged to come and visit the Men of Faith Fellowship that meets in St Francis Hall on the First and Third Saturdays from 8-9 a.m. Come early for a bagel, hot coffee and conversation. During nice weather, we meet on the patio adjacent to the St Francis meditation garden. Fellowship begins with a couple of well-known songs led by guitar, voice and harmonica followed by prayer and petitions. We then read Scripture for the weekend Liturgy and share personal insights / challenges about the Readings or related church teaching - a great way to spiritually prepare for Mass later that day or the next! We then close with a song and prayer. Please come! You are welcome - it is like home - an open and welcoming place to share... Contact Tom Boland (937 469-3267) or GK Gene Erbacher for more information...

MEN'S RETREAT

Mark your calendars now for our annual Men's Retreat! We will once again gather at St. John Bosco Chapel in the heart of Wright State University on March 2nd. Please arrive at 8:30 for sign-in & the coffee, delicious treats, etc. We have a great day planned for helping us all properly prepare for our Lenten Journey leading up to the wonderful mystery of, & the gift of Easter. Dynamic speakers, quiet time, Stations of the Cross, music, Confessions, a nice box lunch from Panera Bread, & then Mass at about 3:30. Please call PGK Jim McCoy at 879-3570, or text him, 694-3368 for more information. There is also a sign-up sheet in the lounge. Invite a friend along. The cost for the day is \$15 to cover expenses.



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BILL
AND
JEFF
KEANE

"Mommy, Billy and Jeffy aren't startin' the new year off right!"



PRAY THE ROSARY AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN,
PLEASE COME EARLY TO THE BUSINESS MEETING
(7 PM) AND PRAY THE ROSARY WITH YOUR
BROTHER KNIGHTS.

HOME CORPORATION

Your Home Corp continues to work hard to support the Council. The Directors met on 17 January to pay bills and discuss business. A work party was held on January 19. The Home Corp files were purged of old document to make room for new ones, and the Home Corp Budget was finalized for presentation to the Trustees and membership next month. A work party will be held on February 16th from 9:00 - 11:00. Please come and help your brother knights keep our property and equipment functioning properly.

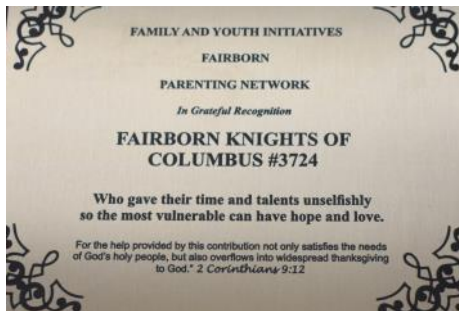
Our monthly raffle winners were:

1st Place: Rey Baluyot, \$40 Ticket #166

2nd Place: Michael Stock, \$25 Ticket #143

3rd Place: Jim McCoy, \$10 Ticket #025

Pro life Dinner and Dedication



Officers/ Directors

Chaplain Fr. Don Moss

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879-5332

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Church Activities PGK Phil Ambs
525-0750

Culture of Life Activities Percy Gros
878-5455

Community Activities PGK John Wolfe
609-4552

Council Activities PGK Bill Stoddard
237-9059

Family Activities Dan Cyphers
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Youth Activities Thomas Pyatt
879-2841

Bereavement PGK John Maiorano
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Bingo Eric Rogalinski
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INSURANCE CORNER

Our Guarantees Set Us Apart

Knights of Columbus life insurance offers something precious few other financial products can – guarantees. As long as you pay your premiums, the policy proceeds will be there for your beneficiaries should something happen to you. That's peace of mind, and that's what we offer with every product in our portfolio.

We guarantee the cash value in your whole life policies will be there.

We guarantee the rates on your term insurance.

We guarantee the rate and your principal in our retirement annuities.

On top of those product guarantees, I guarantee that I will offer professional, high-quality service that you would expect from our organization.

Our Order is among the highest rated life insurers in North America. AM Best has rated the Knights of Columbus "A++ Superior" for 40 consecutive years. It's a testament to our track record for excellence and security.

I would suggest that a principal reason that we were able to achieve those accolades is because we remain steadfastly committed to the vision of Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney by providing life insurance by brother Knights for brother Knights.

That commitment is an essential core value of the Knights of Columbus, and our core values permeate all levels of our organization. We pledge to serve our brother Knights, and their families, according to our Golden Rule: "In all my professional relationships, I pledge myself to the following rule of conduct: I shall, in light of all conditions surrounding those I serve, render that service which, under the same circumstances, I would apply to myself."

Let's talk soon to discuss how our products can bring that peace of mind to you and your family.

Robert Hernandez
Knights of Columbus
Insurance Field Agent #18446
robert.hernandez@kofc.org
937-689-2202



HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS



Universal – Victims

For a generous welcome to the victims of human trafficking, enforced prostitution, and violence.

MEMBERSHIP

I am still available in the meeting room every Thursday from 7:30 to 8:30 and after Business meetings for about an hour to listen to your membership recruiting and retention comments and suggestions. I have noticed that over the past several years our council has grown from 300 members then to 260 members now. What is going on. We are not replacing our members who die. To recruit a new member, convey a sense of enthusiasm, excitement and pride when talking about the great things our council accomplishes and the people our council help. If you cannot think of any great things or accomplishments or if you cannot work up any enthusiasm or excitement then you need to come see me some Thursday.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Health and Healing requests are entered into the council's prayer request book prior to the business meeting. If you can't make a meeting and have a name you wish to include in the Santa Maria prayer intentions, please call the council hall and leave a message or send an email to Santamaria @3724kofc.org.

Rest of the Soul:

Joan Trefethen, wife of brother Ed Trefethen.. Robert Hepfinger brother-in-law of PGK Karhoff, and Stan Pagar cousin of Rob Hernandez.

Health and Healing:

PGK John Whytal, PGK Al Brewer, PGK Lew and Melita Murphy, Vic Berberich, Ed Trefethen, Nancy Wertheimer, Dave Bartok, Paul Yosick, Angel Fox, Jon Edwards, Frank Harris, DCN Rusty Baldwin, Cecilia Richards



**Council 3724
Fairborn, OH**

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Feb 7	Trustees Meeting	Feb 9	Parish Dinner
Feb 11	4th Degree Meeting	Feb 14	Business Meeting
Feb 21	Home Corp Meeting	Feb 23	Reverse Raffle
Feb 28	First Degree		

MARCH PREVIEW

Men's Retreat, Blood Drive, MHC Membership Open House, Parish Dinner, Blue Coat Dinner, 5th Sunday Rosary, Corporate Communion

BUSINESS MEETING ATTENDANCE

The 2nd Thursday on each month, we pray the Rosary at 7:00 pm which is followed by our business meeting. Please attend, stay after the meeting and socialize with your brother knights. Every Thurs there's a Pot-of-Gold drawing. Entry fee is 50 cents and you are required to sign your name in "The Book". At 10:00 pm on the meeting night and at 9:30 pm on the other Thursdays there's a random drawing from our membership pool. The name of the winner drawn win's the Pot-of-Gold if they completed the entry requirements.



Larry Dewitt Receiving KOTM from GK Erbacher



Dan Cyphers Receiving FOTM from GK Erbacher

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St. Valentine, the Real Story



Flowers, candy, red hearts and romance. That's what Valentine's day is all about, right? Well, maybe not.

The origin of this holiday for the expression of love really isn't romantic at all—at least not in the traditional sense. Father Frank O'Gara of Whitefriars Street Church in Dublin, Ireland, tells the real story of the man behind the holiday—St. Valentine.

"He was a Roman Priest at a time when there was an emperor called Claudius who persecuted the church at that particular time," Father O'Gara explains. "He also had an edict that prohibited the marriage of young people. This was based on the hypothesis that unmarried soldiers fought better than married soldiers because married soldiers might be afraid of what might happen to them or their wives or families if they died."

"I think we must bear in mind that it was a very permissive society in which Valentine lived," says Father O'Gara. "Polygamy would have been much more popular than just one woman and one man living together. And yet some of them seemed to be attracted to Christian faith. But obviously the church thought that marriage was very sacred between one man and one woman for their life and that it was to be encouraged. And so it immediately presented the problem to the Christian church of what to do about this."

"The idea of encouraging them to marry within the Christian church was what Valentine was about. And he secretly married them because of the edict."

Valentine was eventually caught, imprisoned and tortured for performing marriage ceremonies against command of Emperor Claudius the second. There are legends surrounding Valentine's actions while in prison.

"One of the men who was to judge him in line with the Roman law at the time was a man called Asterius, whose daughter was blind. He was supposed to have prayed with and healed the young girl with such astonishing effect that Asterius himself became Christian as a result."

In the year 269 AD, Valentine was sentenced to a three part execution of a beating, stoning, and finally decapitation all because of his stand for Christian marriage. The story goes that the last words he wrote were in a note to Asterius' daughter. He inspired today's romantic missives by signing it, "from your Valentine."

"What Valentine means to me as a priest," explains Father O'Gara, "is that there comes a time where you have to lay your life upon the line for what you believe. And with the power of the Holy Spirit we can do that—even to the point of death."

Valentine's martyrdom has not gone unnoticed by the general public. In fact, Whitefriars Street Church is one of three churches that claim to house the remains of Valentine. Today, many people make the pilgrimage to the church to honor the courage and memory of this Christian saint.

"Valentine has come to be known as the patron saint of lovers. Before you enter into a Christian marriage you want some sense of God in your life—some great need of God in your life. And we know, particularly in the modern world, many people are meeting God through his Son, Jesus Christ."

"If Valentine were here today, he would say to married couples that there comes a time where you're going to have to suffer. It's not going to be easy to maintain your commitment and your vows in marriage. Don't be surprised if the 'gushing' love that you have for someone changes to something less "gushing" but maybe much more mature. And the question is, is that young person ready for that?"

"So on the day of the marriage they have to take that into context," Father O'Gara says. "Love—human love and sexuality is wonderful, and blessed by God—but also the shadow of the cross. That's what Valentine means to me."