

SANTA MARIA

FAIRBORN COUNCIL #3724

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS

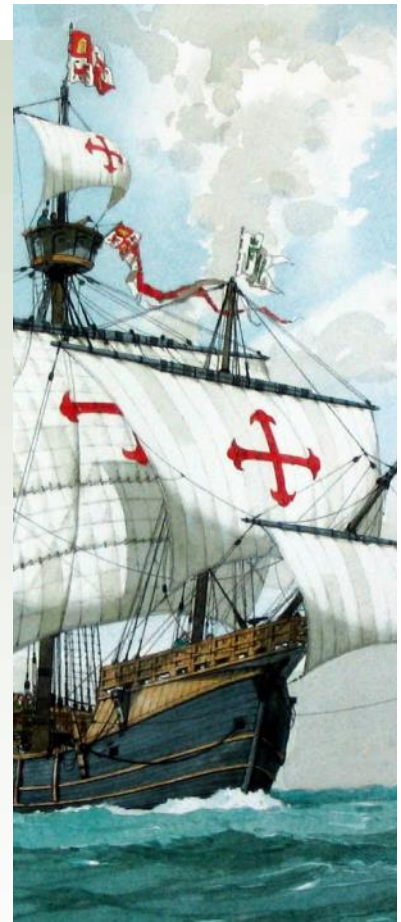
FRATERNAL YEAR 2020-2021 CHARTERED IN OCTOBER 1953 Jan 2021

Grand Knight's Corner

My fellow Knights and families of 3724, what a year, I have been staring at my screen for the better part of two weeks trying to come up with what I can say to you all as we bid farewell to 2020 and welcome 2021. I think the theme I've settled on for this newsletter is connection and the thought came to me as I was watching my favorite Christmas Movie. "A Christmas Carol" based on the book by Charles Dickens. When Marley speaks and tells Scrooge that "Mankind should have been my business." That was the catalyst for my thought, and it is not without biblical precedence. After all, does not our Lord himself say, "That which you have done for the least of my brothers, you have done for me." Even my Stoic studies have revealed that central theme. One of the main tenants is that every human being is connected, we do well as a species when we help each other, support each other, work together to recover from the blows we suffer as a society. "What's good for the bee is good for the hive." When we pursue a goal for the betterment of self only when we seek to set ourselves apart and superior to our fellow men and women then we suffer. Look at Congress does that not play out every day in the news? Both sides have completely forgotten their duty to their fellow humans. Does this mean don't try to improve yourself? No, it doesn't but what it does fall to is, improve yourself and then apply those improvements to helping your fellow man. We are all connected through God and through our faith and through the death on the cross of Jesus which opened the doors to heaven for us. I have touched on this thought before as well, we all have gifts, talents given to us by our creator and we will be called to give an account of how we used them in this life. I believe that with all my heart. As Luke tells us in Chapter 21 verse 36; "Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to stand before the Son of Man."

As always when the curtain closes on one year and opens on the next it's a good time to look at finances both personal and at the council level. Taxes are once again coming due, council audits are coming up, council dues for the coming year need to be paid. Covid has done some serious damage to the world, our nation our cities and families. It doesn't matter which side of the debate we are on at this point. Business's have failed, livelihoods have changed. On a smaller level while the council is in a decent position financially some tough choices have had to be made and more our coming. I've spent some time looking at the council budget and with the impact Covid has had on fundraising we are going to have another sparse year, but we must keep the electric and water on at the hall and at least some of our charitable donations that our locked in. I am cancelling the Blue Coat Awards for this year as well as the Ladies dinner and Knight of the Year Dinner as there are significant cost outlays for all three and we just don't have the budget this year. The annual spaghetti dinner which is usually in January has been rescheduled for later in the year and quite frankly even as the vaccines start to trickle down to us, we are going to be significantly impacted for at least the first part of 2021 in our ability to gather. I know despite all the challenges that 3724 will continue to be a force for good in our community.

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Special points of interest

- Holy Father's Prayer Intention

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Speaking of challenges one of the most significant I think we have all faced is the changes in our personal health and wellbeing brought about by forced isolation. I encourage you all to step outside your comfort zones and perhaps teach yourself something new to keep your mind and soul engaged. I have ramped up my journaling, rededicated myself to my guitar playing and am trying to learn a little bit of the piano. Again, trying to turn this giant negative we are all living into something beneficial to God, to my family and to my friends. Keep abreast of the knight and activity alerts for news and updates relating to the council. The hall is closed for January other than the Trustees and the Home Corp meetings which again are minimum quorum only. My Knight of the Month was worthy PGK Russ Milliron whose tireless efforts on behalf of our council, and SVDP continue to amaze and astound me. My family of the month was the family of Dan and Jana Cyphers.

Dan and Jana outdid themselves with the council memorial mass and were indispensable in helping to get the Consecration to the Holy Family scheduled with the Parish this year which took place on December 27, despite the challenges with the Pandemic. Thank them when you see them.

I ask all of you to keep your faith, bolster each other think of the following which comes from Chapter 5 of Thessalonians. "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit.

My personal prayer for all of you for the coming year, "May the God of peace himself make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Ut in omnibus glorificetur Deus

Vivat Jesus. GK Erbacher

Defending Our Namesake

Charge #4 Against the Character of Christopher Columbus. He had only worldly interests.

People often claim that Columbus was motivated by "God, gold and glory," but assume God was just a cover for worldly interests. In fact, his religious devotion was sincere. Among other things, we know from his writings that he felt that he had been given a role in spreading the Gospel to all nations, which had to happen before Christ could return. In later years, he often dressed as a Third Order Franciscan.

FAB Update

Donation checks from the building fund proceeds will be written during the month of January. We have a total of 10,000 dollars this year and the charities selected for donation support are the following:

Mary Help of Christians (New Digital Signs on Maple and on Broad St.) \$9500.00

Orphanage in Mendi Papua New Guinea (General Operating Expenses) \$500.00

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CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY

On Sunday, December 27, 2020, the Catholic Church celebrated the Feast of the Holy Family. As a further celebration of this Feast, Mary Help of Christians parishioners were asked to celebrate a Consecration to the Holy Family. Since the Knights of Columbus are called upon to help strengthen parish families and revitalize our parishes. To aid in this effort, Fairborn Council 3724 invited each Mary Help of Christians' family to consecrate themselves to the Holy Family and to devote themselves to the ideal model of familial love set by Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Council 3724 supplied Consecration to the Holy Family prayer cards for parishioners at the back of Church the week before the Feast of the Holy Family Sunday Mass.

REQUEST FROM SVPD CONFERENCE

If you are able-bodied and have a truck or trailer, let brother Tom Boland know. Our parish St Vincent de Paul Conference is in the business of collecting good used furniture in order to provide to our Fairborn neighbors in need. To do this effectively, we need a cadre of able-bodied persons with ready access to truck or trailer willing to be called upon to help pick up / deliver furniture. Reach out to brother Tom Boland at 937-469-3267 and be prepared to leave a voicemail if necessary. God's blessings upon you and your families to remain healthy during this Covid Pandemic

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Linda Engle, a Certified RN, BSN, CCRN on her recent retirement with 40-years of government service with the U. S. Air Force and the Dayton VA Medical Center. Linda was named the 2003 Positive Parenting Mother of the Year for the Miami Valley Region. Also in 2003, the Tom and Linda family was named the Family of the Year for Fairborn Council 3724, K of C, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, the Ohio State Council, K of C, and then named the Supreme Council K of C International Family of the Year Second Runner Up. She plans to relocate to Ellenton, Florida with family members.

Death Notice: 1st Sergeant Jan Lee Gartside, USMC, Retired recently passed away at age 82 in Ramona, California. He was the brother-in-law of PGK John A. Wolfe. Linda Engle who provided medical care for him for several weeks and then made burial arrangements with full military honors and attended the services at Miramar national Cemetery in San Diego, California.

INSURANCE CORNER

The Knights of Columbus offers a wide range of insurance products, please contact me for your insurance needs or if you have any questions.

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MEMBERSHIP

I have heard of a couple of prospective new members. We need more. We are a dying council without new members. Like Jesus says, "Do not be afraid." A potential member won't bite you. Remember all he has to do is get on his computer at home with his family around if he wants. Do it today. Do not forget that this is your council and at this time in history we desperately need members. Our order is under attack as well as our church. God Be With You and we pray that you and your loved ones have a Happy, Holy and Healthy 2021.

HOME CORPORATION

Your Home Corp continues to work hard to support the Council. The Directors met on Dec 17 to pay bills and discuss business. Due to the COVID-19 crisis our work parties will be suspended until further notice.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS



Human Fraternity

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

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.

Repose of the Soul

Brother Jonny Habel, and Joe Stockert, brother of Rita Norman

Health and Healing:

PGK John Whytal, PGK Lew and Melita Murphy, Cal and Alice Smith, Dave Bartok, Paul and Rose Yosick, Jon Edwards, Steve Paulsen, Jim McNamara, Tom O'Connor, Robert Herring, Robert Hernandez Sgt, Rosalie Sloat, Velma Hobbs, Cassie Barlow, Sphaia Yarwick, Cladina Hay, Tony Liam, Janet McGrath, Bill Gould, Jan Gartsipe, Jeanne Paula, Wallace Johnson, PGK Frank Carchedi, PGK Russ Milliron, Cathy Kempf, Tony Newton, PGK Herman Karhoff.

JANUARY EVENTS

All activates cancelled except those noted in newsletter.



Council 3724
Fairborn, OH

FEBRUARY PREVIEW

Any activities will be in February newsletter.

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.



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"I thought it was gonna be a New Year? This looks just like the OLD year."

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