



The Carpenter



Fr. Edward Fitzgerald Council No. 12772; 670 West Main Street; Plain City, Ohio 43064

January 2017 Coming soon on the web: www.kofc-12772.org



Brother Knights: Please remember that at the 2017 January Business Meeting we will vote on the details and disposition of the recent Scholarship donation and its qualifications. You have been provided with details by separate e-mail so that you may be prepared for this important vote.

Meeting Time Notice—November thru April
Meetings begin at 7:00pm
Business Meeting, 2nd Wednesday, church basement; Social Meeting 4th Wednesday*, PAC
***Note—may be rescheduled; watch your e-mails**

Grand Knight's Report

Brothers...



I hope you all had a Merry Christmas! I wish you all a safe, happy and healthy new year. 2017 looks to be an exciting time for our Council, the Plain City Community and America.

I had the honor and privilege to attend the Christmas Midnight Mass. Our Council offered to fill in for all the ministries required and they all did a splendid job. Fr Trapp was very grateful with our support for that Mass.

At our December business meeting (lots of guys showed up!), we voted in 3 men wishing to join our ranks. We will be looking at mid-January to host a First Degree, probably after the Business meeting. Marysville Council will be adding Deacon Dave to their ranks so we will try to do a combination event with them. Look for an email for this great event. If you have not been to a Degree you should stop in to renew your pledge and to see what more you can get out of this simple but elegant ceremonial.

We also had a little Christmas party. It was really great to mingle with the guys to hear about their jobs and families. I feel it is a nice opportunity to meet new people and to get to

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District Deputy's Report

Brother Knights



We have made it through the holidays, almost. We have some time now to look ahead to our New Year, 2017. I am excited in the activities our District councils and continue to ask for your ongoing recruitment efforts and charitable activities. I came across Queen Elizabeth's simple reflection about the need of service that she shared during her recent Christmas message:

At Christmas, our attention is drawn to the birth of a baby some two thousand years ago. It was the humblest of beginnings, and his parents, Joseph and Mary, did not think they were important.

Jesus Christ lived obscurely for most of his life, and never travelled far. He was maligned and rejected by many, though he had done no wrong. And yet, billions of people now follow his teaching and find in him the guiding light for their lives. I am one of them because Christ's example helps me see the value of doing small things with great love, whoever does them and whatever they themselves believe.

The message of Christmas reminds us that inspiration is a gift to be given as well as received, and that love begins small but always grows.

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Send a greeting to our adopted Seminarian:

Gordon Mott
The Pontifical College Josephinum
7625 North High Street, Columbus OH 43235
614-271-5131, gmott@pcj.edu

Written and edited by Bob Hess, member of Council No. 12772.
Please send inputs or comments to me at hess7762@sbcglobal.net

December Business Meeting Notes

Meeting was called to order at 7:00PM. Opening prayer by GK Carl Haaser. Previous Minutes approved. No corrections needed.

Three new Applications: 1st readings approved for Christopher Kerr, Jordan Ranley, and Scott Heiss.

Grand Knight Report

- Youth group has requested a ping pong table which will be donated by GK Carl Haaser. Carl could use help transporting the table so if you're willing to help, contact Carl directly.
- Three volunteers requested and picked to send encouragement emails to Seminarian Gordon Mott.
- Congratulations to Deacon Dave on his ordination. A \$75 gift card for a nice meal will be sent from our council.
- Our recent \$5,000 donation for scholarships will be used to start an endowment fund with the Columbus Diocese. Voted to approve details and usage requirements. Contract details will be sent out in a future email.
- Successful Used Kids' Coats drive has resulted in a surplus being stored in Church basement. 14 coats delivered to Canaan Schoo. Working on identifying further needy recipients.
- Annual Christmas party held after tonight's meeting. 23 Brothers joined together for a wonderful evening.

Treasurer's Report

- Current bank balance noted.
- Two outstanding charges of \$250 each. ,offset by pending \$500 deposit.

Financial Secretary's Report

- \$118 reimbursement to GK Carl Haaser for the Christmas party pizza.

Program Director Report

- All submitted activities approved; 2 new ones entered.

New Business

- Motion made to add \$1,000 of Council money to the \$5,000 endowment fund payment. Full details to be sent out and vote will be at next business meeting.
- Submarine sandwich sales discussed as a possible fundraiser after Masses. To be further discussed.
- Family Bowling party to continue. Looking into Feb 12th as a possible date.

Good of the Order

Sharon Thobe, Jeremiah Peck, Paul Nichol, Larry Shoup, Nora Donovan, Mary Jane Ward, Nora Ludwig, Michael Gerald, Daniel Donovan, Clara Pagano, Sandy Hilbert, Jim Armillotti, Gloria Butler, Dave Reinhart, Florine Hamlin, Carl Rush, Dave Harris, Vostatek Family, Lynn Chapman, Sharon Wing, Pat Heier, Larry Bernado, Kelsey Chapman, Judie Cardoni, Millie Highlier.

Fr. Trapp shows off his new K of C jacket



Council 12772 presented Fr. Trapp with a new winter K of C jacket to help keep him warm in the winter months ahead.

January Birthdays/Anniversaries

Knights

Kevin Thelen 1/8
 Todd Thobe 1/17
 Kevin Donovan 1/18
 Gregory Adams 1/24
 Mark Walden 1/25
 Robert Timberlake 1/26
 Jim Fritter 1/30

Spouses

Sarah Reinhard 1/10
 Jill Will 1/18
 Jennifer Donovan 1/19
 Lisa Bowen 1/20
 Kris Newsome 1/25
 Jennifer Peck 1/27
 Denise Brickner 1/31

Children

Elizabeth Reinhard 1/1
 Morgan Thobe 1/6
 Marilyn Wright 1/7
 Elizabeth Ernst 1/8
 Sam Rizzo 1/15
 Bridget Schurman 1/18
 Melissa Stransky 1/19
 Josh Stransky 1/19
 Leo Bertorello 1/29
 Mary Melliere 1/29

Wedding Anniversaries

Jim & Deedee Bradley 1/2
 Jim & Karen Fritter 1/23

January Dates to Remember

Jan 11 7:00pm Business Meeting—Church

Jan 25 7:00pm Social Meeting—PAC—**may be rescheduled**

The Chat Corner ...

Renewal

by Lori Crock



Christmas is a time of renewal in many ways.

We renew our relationship with the Jesus, Mary and Joseph in the humility of Jesus' birth. We are renewed by God's great love for us in the act of sending his only Son to us as the Incarnate Word.

Our spirit is renewed by special times with family and friends during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

We are renewed by a change in routine — some time off from work, maybe some travel, more prayer time, and carefree timelessness with those we love as other activities slow down for a while.

All of this renewal is good for the soul and can spiritually strengthen us to move into the new year with a fresh perspective and a desire to grow in holiness and healthiness.

Here at St. Joseph, we'll be offering a Women's Day of Renewal on Sat., Jan. 14 from 9-noon with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Rosary prayer, a talk and small group sharing, and concluding with fellowship and lunch.

Please encourage a woman in your life to join us for a beautiful morning of spiritual renewal and fellowship to prepare our hearts and minds for what God is calling us to do in the new year.

Please email me at lori@movestrongkbs.com by Jan. 9 for Women's Day of Renewal RSVPs.

Blessings,
Lori

Lori Crock is a wife and mother and St. Joseph parishioner. She can be found online at holvandhealthycatholic.com, movestrongkbs.com and can be reached at lori@movestrongkbs.com.

We Are God's Instruments

By Deacon Tony Bonacci



There's a great story in the Old Testament about God and Moses (see *Exo. 4:2-4*). God "uses" Moses to show His presence and power.

In the book of Isaiah, God "uses" Cyrus, a *pagan King*, (see Isaiah 44-45) to free the Israelites. The point is, God uses *people* to achieve His plan!

In our day, God uses **us** (you and me) to achieve His plan! **We are God's instruments!** If we are *open* to God, we will hear God say (like He said to Moses) "What is that in your hand?" [*If we're at home* – maybe it's a little one, or the arm of an elderly parent; maybe it's a laundry basket, or a lawn mower; if we're **at work** - a tool, a document that affects others, article we make; if we're **at school** - a text, a laptop; or if we're **at the store** – a shopping cart or money]. In all these places, God is asking us, "Are you *serving* as my instrument? In what you're *doing*, or what you're *saying*, or what you're *using*, are you showing your love for me and for others.

These are moments of grace! These are moments when God reveals Himself to us, *in simple everyday situations*. God reveals **who we are** (creatures made in God's image); **what we are** (instruments of God's plan); and **why we are here** (we are here to be called back to God Himself)...

Maybe we don't think of ourselves as God's "instruments." Maybe for some of us, God and religion is an *external* thing, something we do on Sundays, or on special occasions like baptisms, weddings and funerals. Maybe we've *blocked God out* with our *pride*, or our *selfishness*, or our *indifference*, or our *fear*... Maybe we need to think about that...

Sooner or later, we come to realize that God *uses* our strong points *and* our weak points to *move us forward*, to achieve His plan. Sooner or later, we are *willing* and *eager* to be His instrument.

Today and every day, let us respond to God, "Yes, Lord, **make me your instrument.**"

A blessed Christmas season to you and yours,

Another Pancakes with St. Nick success

Our Council 12772 *Pancakes with St. Nick* breakfast drew a nice crowd on Saturday morning, December 3. We served some 150 meals, netting us over \$500 after all expenses. Photos with Santa were popular, as more than 30 were taken.

Sincere thanks go Brother Dennis Grose who again played Santa Claus, and Todd and Sharon Thobe who provided a great Christmas backdrop and professional photo production. The kitchen supporting cast included Brothers Deacon Bonacci, Bowen, Brickner, Fisher, Fritter, Haaser, Heindel, Hess, Needham, Schilling, Schurman and Timberlake.

Noteworthy: three of our newest members were among the helpers.



New members Kevin Schilling (l.) and Doug Heindel tend 2 of the 6 griddles producing pancakes.



Scott Bowen (r.) organizes fresh cakes while Deacon Tony and GK Carl Haaser fry up some more.



Brother Dennis Grose (aka Santa) cuddles three happy kids while posing for their photo.



New Member Robert Timberlake handled incoming customers at the entrance, providing plates which served as their meal ticket inside.



Most customers came as family groups such as this one enjoying their all-you-can-eat pancakes and sausage breakfast.

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I encourage all of us to be like Christ's example and see the value in doing small things with great love.

Happy New Year, and Vivat Jesus!

Jeff Fisher, DD

Used Kids' Coats collection surges; distribution begins

Thanks to generous St. Joseph parishioners, our Council project to collect used coats for kids brought 45 items to our K of C collection boxes over the past month.

This enabled us to begin distribution at Canaan Middle School, where 14 coats, plus a bag of miscellaneous caps, gloves and scarves, were donated on Monday, December 12.

Shown in the photo at left are Brothers Mike Bertorello and Bob Hess with Canaan Middle School secretary Summer Sowards.

More coats will be delivered to area schools through the winter months.



Council 12772 Brothers enjoy their annual Christmas Party



Council 12772 Knights serve all Ministries at Christmas Midnight Mass



Shown (l. to r.) are Jon Santini, Jim Fritter, Matt Brickner, Deacon Tony Bonacci, Griffin Brickner, Jon Santini III, Carl Haaser, Fr. Trapp, Mike Thiergartner, John Ciuca, Phil Powers, Ed Stransky, Mark Needham, Kevin Donovan, Todd Thobe and Mike Peck.

Council Brothers, daughters appear in 2016 BalletMet Nutcracker production



Above (l.), John Ciuca with daughters Caroline (l.) and Grace, and (r.) Phil Powers with daughter Cecelia, performed in the BalletMet Columbus production of the Nutcracker. Powers and Ciuca, both playing butlers, and Cecelia appeared in the opening scene of Act 1. Caroline was a Spanish dancer and Grace a reed flute, both in Act 2

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know some you haven't seen in a while.

At our January meeting we will start discussing our Lenten Fish Frys as well as a possible sub-sale. We will also will firm up a date for the First Degree. Of course, that can change based on the availability of the new candidates.

January 26th will be our Social meeting. It is open to any one including your older kids and neighbors. Come in and enjoy some fellowship with your Brother Knights. Look at the posted calendar for times and locations for the meetings.

As I head into the home stretch of this fraternal year, I look forward to meeting and talking with many more of you at a meeting, the Fish Frys or at Mass. Don't be shy, just come by and say hi.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Yours in Christ,

Carl Haaser, Grand Knight
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