



Buckeye Bulletin

Volume 2 - Issue 4

October - 2026

State Chaplain - Fr. John Paul Walker, OP

State Deputy - Mike Felerski

State Advocate - Tony Offenberger

State Secretary - Jim Maslach

State Warden - M. Stewart Vetter

State Treasurer - Chris Sarka

Immediate Past State Deputy - Jeff Kiliany

From Our State Deputy

Celebrate Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness!

"Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness" is one of the best known phrases from the United States Declaration of Independence. Working backwards the pursuit of happiness can apply to ourselves and our neighbors. The goal of Blessed Michael McGivney was caring for the needy and outcast. The things we *do* as Knights in our communities to help others is pursuing happiness for our neighbors in distress. Be it supporting our food banks, working with and supporting our Saint Vincent de Paul conferences, building beds for kids, or cleaning up our elderly neighbor's yard. Liberty is what provides the opportunity to accomplish our corporal works of mercy. We have the freedom to help others and not be rendered to nugatory existence. But the base of all of this starts with "Life." Without it, the other two are meaningless.



Michael J. Felerski
State Deputy
mfelerski@icloud.com

With October being Respect Life month our councils will be busy showing our support for life through events like the State March for Life on October 2nd, and wrapping up our Measure-Up program. It is also a good time for monetary collections and diaper drives for our pregnancy centers supporting the Knights of Columbus ASAP (Aid and Support After Pregnancy) program along with raising money for ultrasound machines.

With the reversal of Roe and the state constitutional amendment on abortion, our mission has not changed, only how we approach changing hearts and minds this challenges. Recent events have shown what happens when we devalue life. Often referred to as a "slippery slope" which some deny, it actually is a much more gradual devaluation. But we can never give up on the mission – to celebrate and promote life!

We can change hearts and minds through prayer along with the initiatives mentioned. The pro abortion and euthanasia side always seems to be angry. We might be angry too and saddened by recent events but we also need to stay positive and continue to invite men to join us and strengthen our pro life mission.

Vivat Jesus!

Michael J. Felerski - State Deputy

2026-2027 State Per Capita Invoice Information

Brothers,

Thank you to all the councils that have sent in their state per capita. We are just about 75% collected. We appreciate it.

For those that have not, I will be sending out a reminder email. Your statements are available via the state website under FOR MEMBERS > State Per Capita Invoices. All the invoices have been uploaded to the State's Google Drive. If you have any issues, please contact me and I will send you a copy.

We are making the invoices available electronically in an effort to reduce our operating expenses. This simple little exercise saves the state about \$5K a year in postage and supplies. This is just another way that we are trying to keep state per capita at \$6.50 per member. Thank you again for your cooperation.

In case you do not know, here is how the state per capita is calculated.

The state per capita bill is sent to local councils by the State Secretary annually in July. Article V Section A of the Ohio State Council By-Laws states:

For the purpose of defraying the expenses and obligations of the State Council, there shall be levied against, and annually collected from all Ohio Councils, except College Councils whose membership is comprised of a majority of full-time college students, a per capita assessment based on the number of members of the respective council as of the first day of May of the current year, as shown by the records of the Supreme Secretary. The State Secretary shall obtain from the Supreme Secretary and present to the State Council meeting a report showing the number of members of each council as of said date.

The per capita assessment for inactive insurance members will be levied at an amount less than that of an active insurance member and when added with the Supreme Council per capita and Catholic Advertising assessments may not exceed but may equal that of the Supreme Council Inactive Insurance Member Rebate.

Membership data that is used to generate the annual per capita invoice is, as stated above, downloaded from the Supreme website on May 1st at 11:00 AM. Randomly, that report is compared against the Supreme Council invoice received by the Financial Secretary to ensure that membership data is consistent and true.

The Ohio State Council charges \$6.50 per member for each council with rebates for:

- Inactive Insurance Members (as noted in the By-Laws quoted above)
- Honorary Life
- Disabled/Exempt Members

If the council sold Football Crazz tickets in the previous year and reached a quota level, those credit rebates will be applied.

Again thank you for all you do.

Vivat Jesus,

Jim Maslach - State Secretary



Jim Maslach
State Secretary

kofcjk@gmail.com





Ohio Growth Report



Mark Kosobud
State Growth Chairman
mkosobud@yahoo.com

Finally, Summer turns into Fall as September rolls into October. Ah, October – football of all kinds, warm days but cool nights, and the October Blitz Growth Drives at many councils. Hopefully, everyone has followed the key COI Drive steps:

- Contact the Pastor!
- Call the council Field Agent!
- Arrange a date for a COI Drive!

If you have done these steps, you should be ready to rock-n-roll with your Growth Drive!

Lots of people have asked what makes the COI Drive (formerly known as the BCP Drive) so successful. As we approach one of the peak times for Growth, it's probably a suitable time to address this question.

There are three key components to the COI Drive. First is the creation and distribution of the handout packages. The real secret of these packages is that **THEY SHOULD BE HANDED TO EACH MAN AS HE ENTERS THE CHURCH**. No exceptions! This is the rationale behind having so many Knights at each door, their **ONLY** task being to put the handout package in the hands of the incoming men. The goal is to have each man have this package without the opportunity to wave off the attempt to give him one. This is important because we want each man to have this material in his hands when we ask him to join. No worries if he chooses not too later, but he can't if he doesn't have the material at hand.

The second key is the pulpit talk. The new COI Drive pulpit talks have been crafted to intrigue and invite all the men of the parish to consider membership in our Order. They now include a direct invite to the spouse as well! Best given by the Field Agent (who is used to making this kind of pitch) they can also be given, when necessary, by seasoned speakers who have a knack for public speaking. Now, some councils have found that a pulpit talk is not possible in their parish. This is not the end of the world! While not the best approach, having the pulpit talk inserted into the parish bulletin or offered as part of the parish notes can be an alternative. Going as far as to print the pulpit talk and using it to wrap the handout package can be an alternative choice. The goal is to offer membership to the men of the parish, no matter how you choose to do it!

Finally, the third key point is Form #11811 – and a pen or pencil! The real magic of the COI Drive is that it allows the potential new member to decide for himself whether he wants to join — and to do so privately (or perhaps with the help of his spouse). This keeps the awkward moment of the kind but hesitant Brother Knight asking for the join when the candidate has not quite made up his mind.

As the men come out of church, councils need to be ready at the doors again to do one of the following:

- Accept a completed form and promise to get the candidate's information into the system right away.
- Accept a form which is incomplete and thank the potential member for considering joining the Knights – and then promptly give this form to the Field Agent!
- Accept empty forms and thank them for consideration or thank those who leave their forms in the pews for considering joining our Order.

Pinnacle 27!

***continued from previous page**

These are the very heart of the COI Drive and the key to their success. In essence, we are providing the tools, providing the rationale, and providing the private moment for the man to take up his Cross.

Remember, it's up to us to provide the motive for a man to join us – just as someone once asked each of us to become a Knight, it's now our turn to extend that invitation!

Our work is just beginning, and we still have a job ahead of us to try and reach

Set your council goals high, then go out and start Inviting!

Remember – Inviting is a mindset, not a date!

Vivat Jesus!

Mark F Kosobud - State Growth Director

Pinnacle 27!



Training Sessions Coming

Worthy Brother Knights,

Congratulations Ohio Knights of Columbus! We currently have 155 Council EFF Directors. That puts Ohio in the top tier of the Order for implementing this necessary initiative. Keep up the excellent work and encourage your members and fellow parishioners to attend these small faith groups.



Arron Mier
Evangelization & Faith
Formation Director
kofcohioeff@gmail.com

An update from New Haven: Brother Ty Tyjewski and I had a very educational and productive time at Supreme. I want to use this space to emphasize the reach of our Order. At this training, we had brother knights from every state, every jurisdiction in Canada and Mexico, France, Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, South Korea, and Philippines. It is truly a remarkable sight when you think of how Blessed Fr. McGivney started the Order in the basement of St. Mary's church all those years ago.

For a bit of housekeeping: The link to submit the Cor Quarterly Reports shows the wrong year, but I assure you that it is still the one and only valid link. Please use it to submit your reports for the first quarter. Also, please remember that it is now a requirement to show some type of participation in Cor related activities to qualify for Star Council.

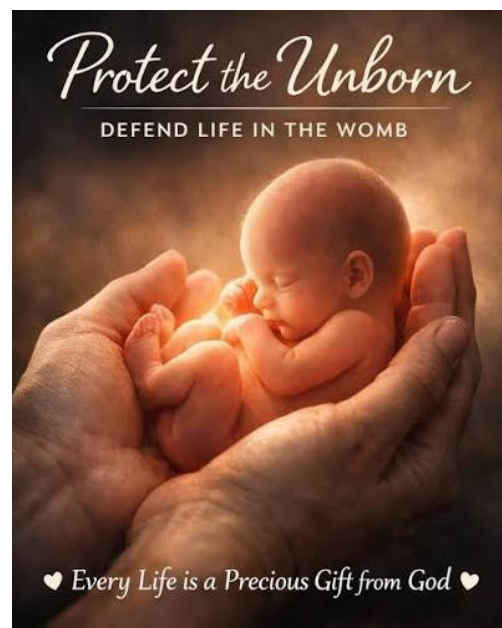
Upcoming events: (I use "upcoming" loosely) Before the end of the fraternal year, we plan to have a Cor training session in each diocese. This will be for all council EFF directors, GK's, and any man that may be discerning the role of Council EFF Director. It will be a single day event and will be similar in style to a one-day retreat. More information will be provided as we strive to get schedules worked out.

Finally, I would like to suggest that you organize some type of silent public prayer during October, as we participate in various Marches, Life Chains, etc. It is important as men to show our support for the most vulnerable and to do it humbly in prayer.

As always, if you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out at kofcohioeff@gmail.com

Vivat Jesus!

Arron Mier - Evangelization and Faith Formation Director



Matching Funds Program

Runs 9/1 - 11/15

Brothers,

Time is running out to help your Diocesan Religious Education programs by donating funds to the Matching Funds Program. All money donated stays in your Diocese. The first \$25,000 is matched by the Ohio Charity Foundation. The program starts Sept. 1st and ends on Nov. 15th. Checks should be made out to the Ohio State Council and sent to Tony Offenberger, State Advocate, at 15200 Muskingum River Rd. Lowell, OH 45744. The turn in forms can be found on the State website (kofcoho.org) and are available now.

Link to online fillable Matching Funds PDF:

<https://kofcoho.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/2026-MF-Form-260818-Fillable.pdf>

God Bless,

Tony Offenberger - State Advocate



See You at the March



Brothers,

The month of October is observed by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops as “Respect Life Month” to promote a culture of life support for pregnant women and families. There is no better time for councils to plan and host a Life Program or two. As always, if you are planning an event, be sure to share with your DD, so he can share with other councils for a larger event.

Respect Life Month will be kicked off with the Ohio March for Life this Friday, Oct. 2, in front of the State House in Columbus. The Knights are being asked to assist by being marshals for the march. This is basically assisting individuals getting off the buses, as well as potentially alerting one of many police and other security agencies of an unlikely issue. Here’s the schedule of the events:

- 9:00 Ohio Mass for Life: St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 Broad St.
- 10:00 Concert featuring worship music, State House 1 Capitol Sq.
- 11:00 Rally with keynote speakers
- 12:00 March through downtown Columbus

To get more information and register, go to www.marchforlife.org and see the state dropdown menu to get to the Ohio march link.. It may not be as huge as the national march in Washington, but the crowd is still impressive. Plus, the drive is easier, and the temperature will be a lot warmer! It’s still not too late to plan a carpool and join us in Columbus. The Knights will have a table with free posters somewhat close to the volunteer tent. I’m looking forward to seeing many of you in Columbus!



Fall Offers Plenty of Opportunities for Activities and Council Growth

Worthy Brother Knights of the Great State of Ohio,

October is here, which means we have plenty of opportunities to not only grow your council, but also run some fall programs to keep the council membership active and involved! First, we have the State March for Life coming up on Friday, October 2nd, in Columbus under Life.



Second, October is Respect Life Month. The first Sunday in October is Respect Life Sunday. Also, October is the month of the rosary! Consider holding the Rosary Program in October under Faith. We have the Soccer Challenge taking place for both the district and regional levels under Community. Don't forget to order your Knights of Columbus Free Throw Kits! Also, plan to hold your Council Church Drives in October as well under Growth!

With November coming up, now is the time to plan for your council's Memorial Mass for the deceased knights of your council. Also, now is the time to order your Keep Christ in Christmas kits. Speaking of November, the first week in November is Vocations Week. Followed by Veterans Day on November 11th.

November is also a great month to participate in the Food for Families Program!

Speaking of the Food for Families Program, I'm sure you have heard about the Join and Serve Challenge. If not, councils can qualify by fulfilling their entire membership quota by November 30th and participate in the Food for Families program (min. \$500 or 1,000 lbs. donated). Your prize includes 8 custom embroidered K of C aprons and 8 custom embroidered K of C baseball hats. Plus, a bragging rights competition! Councils that submit photos of their gear in action will be entered in for a chance to win a \$200 gift certificate to Knights Gear!

As you can see, program activities pick up during the Fall Season! Above all, never forget that **ALL Council Activities** are recruiting opportunities. Remember, your council activities and personal invitations are what attract prospective members!

Faternally,

Tim Mangan - State General Program Director



Tim Mangan
State General
Program Director
tjmangan@icloud.com

Let's Wrap Up Measure-Up

It's time to Measure Up. You collected the Gimme Five with dues. You did the fundraiser and/or the collection. Now, it's time to send in that grant form and that big ole check. Yes, the program goes until November, but if you are done with the collection, get that grant form and check in NOW. Grant forms are available at [Measure Up | Ohio State Council](#).

We are currently at \$179,000 toward the \$300,000 goal. Toledo leads the way with 31% of active councils participating. Holy Toledo that's great!! Cincinnati has 23% participation. Just on their heels is Youngstown with 22% participation. Cleveland is at 18% participation. Just behind is Columbus at 17% participation. Steubenville follows with 13% of active councils participating. There is still plenty of time to move your diocesan participation percentage! It doesn't matter how much you give. It matters that you participate and help YOUR LOCAL community. Did you Measure Up?

Stew Vetter - State Warden



Stew Vetter
State Warden
betterwithvetter@hotmail.com



Build Sportsmanship and Confidence with the Soccer Challenge

Community

Rocky Balboa used to say, “I didn’t hear no bell.” In other words, the fight is not over until someone makes it official. And, as we have seen in Michigan, sometimes the clock operator even adds a little more time to the clock. With that being said, there is still time for councils across Ohio to complete their Soccer Challenge activities for boys and girls ages 9 through 14.

It is surprising, and honestly a little disappointing, that participation in this activity has been so limited across the state. Soccer continues to grow in communities large and small, and young athletes are looking for opportunities to test their skills, build confidence, and enjoy healthy competition. The Soccer Challenge is a simple but meaningful way for councils to provide that opportunity. It does not require a major production, a large budget, or a full tournament schedule. What it does require is commitment, communication, and a willingness to give young people a chance to participate.



Every council that hosts a Soccer Challenge helps promote sportsmanship, physical fitness, and community involvement. More importantly, it creates memories for the children and families who take part. A young player who steps onto the field for this event may discover a new level of confidence. A parent may see their child try something new. A council may strengthen its relationship with the community. These are the kinds of small efforts that can lead to lasting impact.

We never know where the next great athlete will come from. By offering this program, we may just help find soccer’s next Mia Hamm or Pelé. Even if we do not discover a future world champion, we may inspire a child to keep playing, stay active, and believe in their own abilities. That alone makes the effort worthwhile.

So, to every council in Ohio: the bell has not rung, and the clock has not expired. There is still time to get involved, organize your Soccer Challenge, and give children ages 9 through 14 a chance to shine. Let us not allow this opportunity to pass by. Step up, finish strong, and show that Ohio councils are ready to support our young athletes, our families, and our communities.

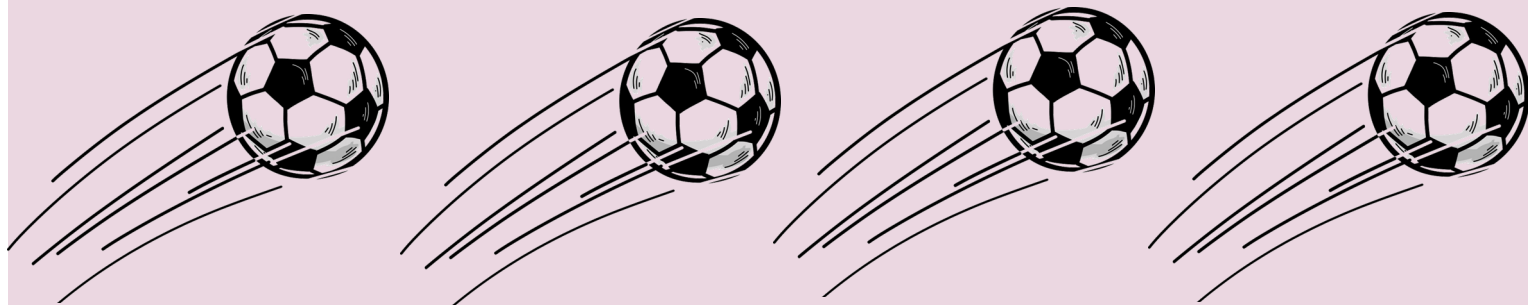
Vivat Jesus,

Matt Smith - State Community Director



Matt Smith
Community Director
matt.smith1974kofc@gmail.com

Hey yo, when’s
your council’s
Soccer Challenge?





Fall Offers Opportunities for Family Programming

Worthy Knights of Ohio,

Last month I advised you that Supreme Council has made changes to the Family Program. One of the major changes is that the Family of the Month form 10784 **is no longer used**. It is being removed and replaced with a new Family of the Month Form, which is now active

Family
and on the

kofo.org/family_programs.

New Family of the Month Form

All Family of the Month (FOM) entries should be submitted using the new **Family of the Month Form**. This form should be used to submit FOM entries going forward, not the Fraternal Program Report Form #10784. We are aware of issues affecting the online #10784 form and are working to resolve them.

Now is the time to start planning for Remembering Our Faithful Departed. The Remembering Our Faithful Departed program calls upon councils to honor and pray for the deceased members of their council, families, and parish community. By commemorating the dearly departed, and asking for the intercession of the saints, knights can help others overcome the grief that accompanies the death of a loved one, strengthen family bonds, promote the unique cultural and religious traditions of their parishes, and help the suffering souls in purgatory.

Councils can implement the Remembering Our Faithful Departed program by creating “ofrendas” or altars in their churches or homes which serve as a call to prayer for the deceased. Other means of commemoration can include praying a memorial rosary, offering a Mass for the deceased, praying the 100 Requiem prayer and visiting cemeteries. Councils can also work with their parishes to organize a youth costume party honoring the Saints or clean and decorate gravestones and cemetery plots.

Suggested Program Dates:

- October 31 (All Hallows’ Eve)
- All Saints’ Day (November 1)
- All Souls’ Day (November 2), and the entire month of November.

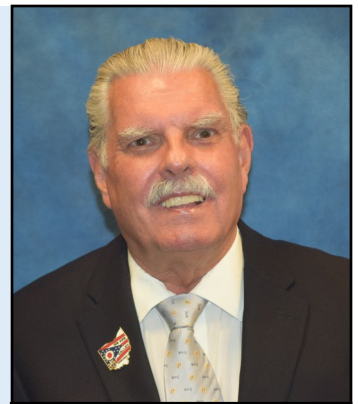
Continue to support Food for Families. This time of year can really show how those in our communities are still struggling to obtain food for their families. Support your local food banks, and or shelters where there is a need for supplying those families in need.

Again, I ask you, when filling out your Family Program reports, please be concise, tell how many knights participated in your family event, how many families were present, and how many meals were served. Those are crucial parts needed to get credit for you Council’s event.

Happy Fall !!!

Vivat Jesus !

Michael Freil - State Family Director



Michael Freil
Family Director
mcfreil2019@gmail.com





Building a Culture through Works of Mercy

Want to know what a man believes a human being is worth?

Do not watch how he treats his boss, his best customer, or the man whose respect he wants. Watch him with someone who can do nothing for him.

Faith

Notice whether he sees the janitor or only the clean floor. Listen to the way he speaks about the prisoner, the addict, the frightened mother, or the boy without a father. Pay attention when patience will bring him no advantage.

The world expects a return on investment. Mercy does not. It becomes dangerous when “expecting something back” becomes our measure of human worth. We make time for useful people and overlook those who cannot improve our position. Without deciding to be cruel, we sort people by what they can return.

The world measures contribution. Catholic faith begins with dignity.

A person does not become more valuable when he is productive, independent, or admired. He does not become less valuable when he is poor, disabled, imprisoned, forgotten, or dependent. His choices may change what help is wise. They do not erase the person God made.

The least are not people of lesser worth. They are people with the least leverage: little power to command attention, little protection when others fail them, and little ability to repay what is given.

Mercy begins there.

At Mass, we receive Christ as a gift, not something earned. Yet a man can receive that gift on Sunday and spend the week being blind to Christ in the people he sees as obstacles. He can speak sincerely about the faith while keeping suffering far enough away that it cannot interrupt him.

He does not have to hate anyone. He only has to become skilled at not seeing.

Comfort is not evil, and success is not a sin. The danger is more subtle. A comfortable man can grow used to the service of people whose names he never learns. He notices the meal, the clean room, and the repaired road. The people behind them fade into the background.

The works of mercy train us to see them again. They place us near hunger, illness, grief, confinement, and loneliness, where love can expect little in return. Visit someone who is sick, and he may not recover. Sit with a grieving man, and there may be nothing to fix. Stay near someone rebuilding a damaged life, and progress may be slow.

This is difficult for us who prefer problems that can be fixed with tools. We know how to repair a furnace, build a ramp, or clear a yard. Such work matters, and communities need men willing to do it well.

Some wounds do not require tools. It may be easier to build the ramp than to sit beside the man who can no longer walk. It may be easier to complain about the lack of leadership than to be dependable.

Sometimes mercy changes a situation. Sometimes it appears as a person who accompanies someone through a difficult time. Sometimes it simply refuses to give up.

That is where our masculine strength finds its purpose.

A work of mercy does more than answer one need. It teaches everyone who sees it how people here are expected to act.

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Chris Crum
Faith Director

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Culture is formed in the moments before anyone makes a request or gives an order. It shows itself when no one is watching, when no credit is offered, and when "not my job" would be the easiest answer.

A piece of trash lies on the floor. Most people step around it. One man bends down and picks it up because he belongs here and its care belongs partly to him. The next time, another person does the same. Nothing was announced. No policy changed. Yet the room has begun to learn a different standard.

People learn mercy the same way. A delivery driver enters and someone greets him by name and brings him water without being asked. A family is in trouble and everyone speaks about it until one man makes the call. A new volunteer arrives and is given more than a task; someone makes sure he knows that his presence matters.

These acts seem too small to call leadership. They are how we learn whether people are worth noticing and whether responsibility begins only after an event has been scheduled.

Indifference is taught the same way.

What we walk past, we teach others to walk past.

No parish announces that lonely people will be forgotten. No workplace decides that people without status may never be considered or included. No neighborhood agrees to ignore a family in trouble. Indifference becomes normal through small omissions while everyone waits for someone else.

One man can break that pattern. He notices what others have accepted and moves before he knows whether anyone will follow. His action gives another person permission to act. A second man joins him. A child imitates what he sees. The next need meets a different response because the people present now know what people like us do.

One act rarely solves the whole problem. It can still change the standard by which the next need will be met.

The leader makes it easier for others to join. He invites a friend, brings his family and friends, and works with the parish group or local organization already familiar with the need. He gives people real responsibility instead of turning them into spectators. He does not make mercy his personal territory. He forms people who will notice and act when he is absent.

A culture of mercy has taken root when the good no longer depends on one unusual man. People stop waiting for instructions, because service has become normal.

Every person has God-given dignity. We belong to one another, so another person's suffering concerns us. Help should begin close to the need and strengthen families, parishes, and local groups rather than push them aside. Those with the least protection deserve deliberate attention. Whenever possible, mercy should restore a person's ability to participate, not make dependence permanent.

See. Move. Return.

See the person before the category. Learn his name. Listen before deciding what he needs. Notice who is missing, who is being used, and who has stopped asking, because experience taught him that no one responds.

Move toward the real need. Ask the people involved what would actually help. Offer what you can and do it well. Prudence may require boundaries, professional help, or a firm refusal to approve behavior. Mercy does not deny accountability. It refuses to reduce a person to his worst act.

Return after the initial jolt of energy fades. A single act may relieve an urgent need; steady presence rebuilds trust. The widower may need another call, though they don't expect one. The young person may need a mentor who keeps showing up. The family in crisis may need help after everyone assumes the crisis is over.

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We do not need to rescue everyone or pretend to have skills we don't have. Begin with what is near. A meal prepared, a fair chance offered, a lonely person visited, or a young person defended can change what a home, parish, workplace, or street expects from its people. The act may be small. The lesson is large: no one here is disposable.

One day, you will be the least.

Today you may be healthy, employed, respected, and needed. You solve problems, pay bills, carry weight, and know whom to call when something breaks. Be grateful for that strength. Do not mistake it for permanent independence.

A diagnosis can reorder a life in an afternoon. A company can end a career in one meeting. An accident can turn the man who carries everyone else into the man who must be carried. Age can take ability slowly while pride invents reasons to refuse help.

Every man enters the world dependent. If he lives long enough, he may leave it the same way.

Independence is a season. Human dignity is permanent.

The works of mercy are not strong people doing favors for weak people. They form a community that remembers two truths:

Today it may be your turn to carry.

Tomorrow it may be your turn to be carried.

This is difficult for men who measure themselves by usefulness. The desire to provide, protect, solve, and remain dependable is good. But when usefulness becomes a man's identity, illness becomes something to hide, unemployment feels like moral failure, and receiving help feels humiliating.



Mercy moves in both directions. Give it without superiority. Receive it without shame. A community in which everyone insists on being the giver is not yet a community of mercy. Sometimes the bravest words a man can say are, "I need help."

A culture of mercy cannot eliminate weakness. It keeps weakness from becoming abandonment.

Indifference will always offer a reason to wait. The problem is too large. The person is too difficult. The schedule is too full. Someone better qualified will surely come.

Do not wait for the whole problem to become manageable. Look at what is within your circle of influence. Ask what is needed. Work with the people already carrying it. Take the next faithful step, and make room for someone else to take it with you.

Mercy is a crown, and the crown is heavy because human lives have weight. It will cost time, comfort, money, and pride. It may ask you to make the call, defend the person others dismiss, or stay after the novelty is gone.

Put your hands beneath the weight.

Show the people watching you what people do here.

See. Move. Return.

Someone has to go first.

Let it be you.

Vivat Jesus!

Chris Crum - State Faith Director

Next Month 17: Faith in the Public Square – Citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven



Plan Ahead for the Unthinkable

Brothers,

Nearly half (47%) of adults say they would have trouble paying living expenses within six months of their primary wage earner's death.

While no one wants to think about tragedy striking their family, planning ahead about how your family might manage financially can be an important part in caring for those you love.

Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Your decisions today have a direct impact on your family's financial future. By working with me to consider your life insurance and income replacement needs, you can prepare for the unexpected while also carrying forward a legacy that has been at the heart of the Knights of Columbus since our founding.

When Blessed Michael McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882, he was witnessing firsthand the precarious situation widows and orphans faced when a father died. He sought to create a way to relieve their burdens and care for those in need. Today, we are proud to continue that tradition of guarding what matters most to our members — their families and their faith.

Income replacement through life insurance can be one part of that protection. As your financial circumstances and family needs change over time, I'm here to help you consider whether your coverage continues to align with your goals and priorities.

That's why every year, we ask for an update on any big life changes — such as whether you've bought a home, had a baby or retired. This annual Financial Protection Survey gives my team important insight into your evolving financial needs so we can provide the personalized, faith-based service you deserve. It also helps us know how well we're fulfilling the Knights of Columbus mission in our roles as licensed professionals. Complete your survey online at <https://survey.kofc.org>

That mission is straightforward and hasn't changed for more than 140 years: to help Catholic men grow in faith, serve others and financially protect their families.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful response. I truly appreciate the opportunity to serve you and your family.

Thank you!

Jason Staas - State Insurance Liaison



Jason Staas
Insurance Liaison
Jason.Staas@kofc.org



Around the Buckeye State



State Media Coordinator Sean Weirich and wife Katherine welcomed their 3rd child at 01:30 September 19th. Micah David Weirich, the largest of the three children at birth, weighed in at 8 lbs 11 oz and was 22 inches long. God be praised, things went relatively smoothly! As of the writing of this article everyone is recovering well.



Queen of Apostles Council #14665 held a Baby Bottle Campaign starting on Mother's Day and ending on Father's Day. On Thursday July 16, 2026, our Grand Knight Russ Wernke presented a check for \$8,000 to Executive Directors Mikki and Kirk Doeger for Mater Felius a home for unwed mothers.



Around the Buckeye State



St James Council #2299 in Logan, Ohio provided local area first responders a delicious lunch and time to relax on Sept 11, 2026, at St John the Evangelist Church. Council members cooked up and served hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, baked beans, macaroni salad, chips, deserts and a variety of refreshments. Guests included members of the Logan Police Department, Logan and Starr Fire Departments, Hocking County Sheriff's Department, and Hocking County EMS. In order to maximize opportunities to attend, we served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. In total, we served 27 meals and had a great time talking with and showing our appreciation to our first responder guests who selflessly serves our community.



Over 40 members, spouses, and children of **Archbishop Elder Council #1195** worked together to serve 435 plates of pancakes, eggs, and sausage to St. Gertrude parishioners and local 1st Responders on Sunday September 27. The money raised will support coats purchased for St. Boniface School in the Northside area of Cincinnati thru the Coats for Kids program. State Chaplain Fr. John Paul Walker, OP graced the event with a blessing and new Parochial Vicar Fr. Louis Bethea, OP cheered us on.

Around the Buckeye State



Fairborn Council 3724 and Daughters of Isabella, Marian Circle 911 sponsored a Rosary at our nationally listed Memorial for the unborn after 4:00 p.m. Mass at Mary Help of Christians on Saturday, September 12, 2026. Thank you to everyone who joined us in saying a Pro-Life Rosary led by PGK Russell Milliron at our Memorial to offer prayers of mourning for the victims of abortion.



Fairborn Council 3724 held another very successful Reverse Raffle on September 26th. Once again everyone was a winner! Not only did they enjoy a plethora of great food and drink, but there was also great comradery and fellowship, chances at many 50/50 drawings and of course the chance at winning big prizes in the raffle. The biggest winners are the many charities this fund raiser is now able to support. Everyone in attendance and/or bought a ticket are the true winners in the joy of giving. All of this was made possible with the many volunteers led by Event Chairman, PGK Frank Minnick and Kitchen Chairman PGK Russell

First Officers of Fairborn Council 3724 October 1953



Left to right, seated: Jack Stevenson, Recorder; Mark DiSalvo, Deputy Grand Knight; Rev. Father Thomas J. Drury, Chaplain; Robert J. Kirsch, Grand Knight; Joseph Gattes, Treasurer; Leonard Shumski, Financial Secretary. Standing: Lawrence Dapora, Trustee; Robert McCarthy, Jr., Guard; John Gallagher, Warden; Frank Fisher, Trustee; Chester Kline, Lecturer; Ward Knisley, Jr., Guard; William Kelly, Chancellor; Thomas O'Carroll, Advocate. Not shown in photograph: Norman Foy, Trustee; Phil McLaughlin, Jr., Guard.

On Thursday October 22, 1953, a meeting was held at the American Legion Hall at 8:30 PM. At the meeting, the council name was selected (Fairborn Council), amount of annual dues (\$14), meeting nights (2nd and 4th Thursday at American Legion Hall for \$7 per night rental), and to submit Financial Secretary nomination to Supreme (Leonard Shumski). Council number 3724 was assigned and on Thursday October 29, 1953 an exemplification was held and **Fairborn Council 3724** Knights of Columbus was instituted. On November 15, 1953, 65 additional candidates received exemplification.

Congratulations!

Around the Buckeye State



GK Patrick Reagan and Treasurer Dan Bagnola of St. Michael the Archangel Council #15458 in Canton helped to build tables for the family constructing a house with the Habitat for Humanity build in Canton.



On August 29th, St. Michael the Archangel Council #15458 in Canton held a 5K Run and Family walk to raise funds for their charitable activities. Pictured at left are Pastor Emeritus, Father Don King with current pastor, Father Benson Okpara. At left is a photo of the start of the race.



Around the Buckeye State



Members of the 4th Degree stand with Archbishop Timothy Broglio, JCD, who presided over a Mass for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, on Saturday, September 26th.



Ohio District 1 welcomed 17 new sir knights into the 4th degree on Saturday, August 22nd, at St. Joseph Church in Canton. Mass followed the exemplification, and then the exemplification banquet was held in the church hall, honoring Fr. Edward Beneleit (picture center right, beside District Master Brandon Robinson), chaplain of both Monsignor Edward P. Graham Assembly 828 and Canton Council 341. Also in Attendance were State Deputy Mike Fellerski, State Secretary Jim Maslach, Immediate Past State Deputy Jeff Kiliany, and Past State Deputy Robert Collins.