The month of December is special as we not only celebrate Christmas and our Lord's birth, but we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. This is one of the greatest feasts in our church where we celebrate that our Blessed Mother Mary was conceived "immaculate", without the stain of original sin.

December 12 we also celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe, which is a Marian Apparition where she appeared to St. Juan Diego in 1531. The tilma or cloak St. Juan Diego was wearing that has the image of Mary on it, remains one of the most miraculous miracles standing the test of time.

Knight of the Month for December: John Dacloush; John is our Programs Director and has been extremely active over these last several months. In support of our golf outing, John worked with and coordinated all communications with our five beneficiaries, ensuring they were active participants in our golf outing. Most recently, John managed and led our Coats for Kids fundraising drive. The results speak for themselves as to the success of the program. We raised over \$2100 in cash donated, we purchased or had donated over 500 jackets, all of which were used to help families in need at St. Vincent DePaul, the Holland Men's Rescue Mission and for migrant families from St. Gregory Catholic Church in Hart, MI. The numbers far exceeded expectations and were well above last year totals. John is to be commended for his leadership as he worked with many fellow Knights to truly make a difference in our community.

Knights of Columbus Website – <u>www.kofc7115.org</u>. If you have not visited the site, please do so, as content is being updated regularly by Joe and Chet, our Directors of Communications.

OLL December - Advent Tree, Advent is a time of anticipation and preparation for celebrating Christ's coming. Please take a paper from the Narthex, draw the outline of your favorite ornament on it, write a message of hope for the new year or something you are thankful for and return it to the ornament tree.

OLL December – Advent Peace, set aside at least ten minutes a day to just sit, take deep cleansing breaths and listen. Pray for God's Presence and peace.

OLL: Christmas Masses: Tickets or registration will be required for Christmas masses. Registration will begin Sunday, December 13.

OLL: Adoration – Every Thursday & first Friday Adoration – Thursday Adoration from 3:00pm – 9:00pm each week; first Fridays from 9:00am – 9pm. If available, please sign up to pray at <u>www.oll.org/adoration</u>.

St. Francis: December: Formed.org - Catholic resource for books and videos. Please utilize the bulletin to access this free gateway to learn more.

7115 Knight Line

St. Francis – Alpha Update, Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, typically run over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designated to create conversation. The next program is scheduled to run on-line January – June 2021.

Knights Project Updates:

- Keep Christ in Christmas 1st annual Kids poster drive
- **Tootsie Roll Drive** Completed at St. Francis December 6
- Knights of Membership Drive OLL weekends of November 15 & November 22
- Christmas Dinner Update Saturday, December 12 at 6:30pm at Beechwood Inn
- Thanksgiving Basket Helping families in need for the upcoming holidays
- OLL Christmas Decorations Thank you to all those who helped on Saturday, November 28th

Giving & Volunteering Opportunity's: Please note that there are many giving opportunity's here during this pandemic. Information can be found at oll.org, stfrancisholland.org, or grdiocese.org.

1. Spiritual care for parishioners who are in hospitals, nursing homes, and other institutions. Please contact Pat Whitaker at OLL at 616-399-1062 ext. 203 or parishnurse@oll.org for details.

2. **St. Vincent de Paul Center** is currently looking for donation and volunteers. Please contact Tom Eggleston at teggleston@stfrancisholland.org.

3. **Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal**, with the collection being taken up in the diocese the weekend of December 12 -13. The fund helps religious communities care for their senior members.

4. **Good Samaritan Ministries** are looking for volunteers, to learn more go to www.goodsamministries.com/get-involved/volunteer.

Special prayers: Bill Snowdin's daughter, Dave Strazanac, Mark Gee, Richard Swanson, Dan Stockdale, Doug Flamboe, Andy Goodrow, and Emily & Pat Kovach. Please keep them in your prayers.

Grand Knight: Gerry Kneeshaw: gkneeshaw@gmail.com