

# Have a Blessed Christmas!



From St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council 11187





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www.kofc11187.com

## HAVE BLESSED CHRISTMAS

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Pickerington, Ohio 43147

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### Dear Worthy Brothers,

We are in the second week of Advent. I hope that all your preparations for the celebration of the birth of our Lord are going well. Many people struggle during this time of year, so let's keep them in our prayers.

The parish's Portsmouth food drive is happening right now. There are several ways to help in this effort. The most obvious way is to donate money to the food drive. Several less obvious ways are volunteering to help distribute the food, be a chaperone for the teens (need to be protecting Gods children certified), or helping your brother Knights cook the food for the volunteers. Any and all help is appreciated.

Our mission is to promote Charity, Unity, and Fraternity so let's keep the less fortunate in our minds and hearts and lend a hand where we can. Some events that are coming up for us are Breakfast with Santa on Dec 14<sup>th</sup>. The Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest for the kids is on the same day with Santa being the judge of the posters. We also have the Consecration to the Holy Family on the weekend of Dec 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to all of my fellow brothers for all you have done this past year. Keep up the great work.

God Bless.

*Charles Slaby*

Grand Knight  
grandknight@kofc11187.com

### Chancellor's Corner

Out of charity my brothers, please pray Psalm 130 (De Profundis) or the Eternal Rest prayer for our deceased Brother Knights in Council 11187 who fell asleep in the Lord during the month of December:

- † Robert E. McDonald - December 7, 2008
- † Fred J. Barwick - December 15, 2016
- † Aloysius McLaughlin - December 17, 2000
- † Donal E. Graft - December 18, 2020
- † Robert D. McNicol - December 20, 2013
- † Paul W. Grubbs - December 30, 2003

*Steven Blevins*

Chancellor

Psalm 130: A Song of Ascents.

Out of the depths I call to you, LORD;  
Lord, hear my cry!  
May your ears be attentive  
to my cry for mercy.  
If you, LORD, keep account of sins,  
Lord, who can stand?  
But with you is forgiveness  
and so you are revered.  
I wait for the LORD,  
my soul waits  
and I hope for his word.  
My soul looks for the Lord  
more than sentinels for daybreak.  
More than sentinels for daybreak,  
let Israel hope in the LORD,  
For with the LORD is mercy,  
with him is plenteous redemption,  
And he will redeem Israel  
from all its sins.

## Membership Meeting Notes - November 12, 2025

Advocate Frank Hare called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call of Officers:** Missing were the Grand Knight, Chancellor, and Outside Guard, all excused. The Deputy Grand Knight position is open. Wayne Patterson made a motion to approve the minutes from last month's meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sergio Martinez. Voted upon and passed.

**Chaplain Report:** Father Leo asked that we pray and support those in Jamaica affected by the recent hurricane as Father Colin King, a Franciscan priest and son of Seton Parish serves as Pastor in Jamaica. Mike Gohr and Marty Brotzge are doing well. Thanked Thom Laughery for the Veterans Day celebration yesterday, great job. Update on Bishop Griffin, unbelievable that 400 people were served today, there is such a need for groceries and clothing.

**Membership and Reading of Applications:** George Bartos introduced our new member, Joey Feck. As of 10/31/25 we currently have 294 members, with JD Postage, Joe Faga and Joey Feck from the 10/21/25 Exemplification and Roman Piloto a transfer from Atlanta, GA. Congratulations to Steve Malott for achieving Honorary Life status in October. Next Exemplification in Church is 11/23/25, currently have 3 new candidates and plans to email 51 Members that do not have 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, St. Pius X Council 5253 will join with some of their candidates. Philip Oteng introduced himself and then George read Philip's application along with Louis Nkon application, Ralph Blamer made a motion to accept the two applicants as read, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Coholich, voted and approved. The link is now available to pay dues for 2026 on line, \$30 for dues and \$5 Gimme Five optional, will be sending out an email with details.

**Grand Knight Report:** Frank Hare on behalf of GK Chuck Slaby thanked all the Knights that attended the Honor Flight at John Glenn airport on 11/6/25 to welcome back Joe Douglas and the other Veterans. Thanked Thom Laughery for organizing the Veterans Day Celebration following the 8:30 am mass on 11/11/25, 101 people attended. Card Night is Friday evening, 11/14/25, at 7 pm in the PAC, thanks to Andy & Jennifer Reitz for hosting this event. Thanks to all who helped and came out for the successful Pancake Breakfast on 11/9/25, next one is 12/14/25, free to the Parish, donations welcomed, served over 400 last year. Everyone is welcome to the Assembly Memorial Service on 11/27/25, thanksgiving dinner at 6:45 pm in Herrmann Hall. Reminder, wear your K of C shirt at mass the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month.

**Deputy Grand Knight Report:** No report.

**Treasurer's Report:** DJ Murphy emailed the financial report to the officers, program chairs, and those who requested a copy, let him know if there are any questions or if anyone else wants a copy. Everything is up to date, balanced and has been reconciled.

**Financial Secretary Report:** George Bartos emailed the Officers and Director the November State Council Newsletter and Diocese Chapter October notes, if anyone else would like a copy, let him know. State Convention is 5/22-24/26 in Columbus, if interested in attending let GK Chuck Slaby or George know, if interested in helping, contact Treasurer Chris Sarka at 614.546.6357 or c\_sarka@hotmail.com. Paid \$XXX in October for State Council Per Capita. Thanks to everyone for your efforts for the 2025 Cash Bonanza, received a \$766.10 check from the State Council, great job Werner Christian. Received a SOS letter from State indicating the collection will be moved up to March in 2026, in the past we have donated \$XXX. Clergy Dinner is 1/26/26. "Protecting God's Children" training will be on 12/3/25, see Melissa Shafer or Barb Serrano if you need it. Thanks to new Brother Joey Feck for volunteering to lead the Free Throw Championship event with it being in the PAC on 1/28/26 at 2 pm and then the following weeks along with Council 5253 at St. Pius X gym classes. Received a \$XXX rebate check for the Food for Families program. If someone is interested in helping with a Seton staff Christmas basket or making a donation on their behalf, let George know.

**Chancellor Report:** Absent, no report.

**Advocate Report:** Frank Hare, no report.

**Warden Report:** Werner Christian will lead the 2026 Super Cash Bonanza ticket raffle sales starting in January, looking for someone to help him, if interested, let him know.

**Trustees Report:** Jesus Garcia, no report.

### Programs and Committees

**Program Director:** Bob Coholich mentioned that there is a Free Financial Webinar tonight at 7 pm. If you attended either the 11/5/25 or 11/12/25 event, send him an email to let him know as the Council gets credit for attending a Fraternal Benefit event which is one of the Program requirements for Star Council.

**Community Report:** Wayne Patterson, no report.

**Faith Director:** Thom Laughery thanked all the Knights (a total of 75 to 80 Knights attended for the month) that turned out every Wednesday evening in October at 8 pm to pray the rosary in the church. Thanked the 101 people that attended the Veterans Day Celebration yesterday and the 6 Knights present on Saturday morning for the rosary, total of 181 Knights involved in these events.

**Report of the Fourth Degree:** Faithful Navigator Joe Douglas invited all Knights and their spouses to the Memorial Service to honor our deceased Sir Knights on 11/19/25, turkey dinner at 6:45 pm in Herrmann Hall and also to the Christmas dinner & party on 12/11/25 at St. Pius X Msgr. Funk Center. Wayne Patterson stated that PGK Charlie Giametta funeral was yesterday at St. Pius X and the last Honor Flight for 2025 is 11/13/25, meet at Seton at 8 pm to car pool.

**Family Report:** Absent, no report.

**Youth Director:** Jay Oconer, no report.

**Culture of Life Report:** Absent, no report.

**Public Relations:** Chris Heine, no report.

**Coat Drive:** Dick Petersen finished the Coat Drive today; 198 coats were donated to St. Vincent Family Center and 62 coats to Bishop Griffin Resource Center. Appreciated all the donations, received some huge donations this year. Special thanks to Theresa Wessel for donating so many hats and gloves.

**Game Night with the Knights:** Scheduled for 11/14/25 in the PAC starting at 7 pm, open to all Seton Parishioners. Snacks and beverages are provided. Thanks to Andy & Jennifer Reitz for running this event, help will be needed prior to for set up and then clean up.

**Pancake Breakfast:** George Bartos had a good turnout for help at the 11/9/25 one, everything went well.

### Unfinished Business:

**MOTION:** Frank Hare made a motion to spend up to \$XXX, budgeted item, for Fish Fry expenses, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Patterson. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the November 12<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. Discussion occurred, voted upon and passed.

**MOTION:** George Bartos made a motion to spend up to \$XXX, \$XXX each for 8 people, from the Council budget for the Clergy Dinner at the Villa Milano on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thom Laughery. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the November 12<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. Discussion occurred, voted upon and passed.

**MOTION:** Wayne Patterson made a motion to donate \$XXX, from the Community budget, to Seton's St. Vincent de Paul, 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Bartos. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the November 12<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. Discussion occurred, voted upon and passed.



**MOTION:** Thom Laughery made a motion to donate \$XXX, from the Church budget, for the Columbus Diocese Chapter TV Mass, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Patterson. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the November 12<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. (Thom Laughery withdrew this motion since there is no longer a Chapter TV Mass.)

**MOTION:** Thom Laughery made a motion to spend up to \$XXX, from the Church budget, to purchase children's books to be handed out at masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ray Ganem. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the November 12<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. Discussion occurred, voted upon and passed.

**MOTION:** Chris Heine made a motion to spend \$XXX, from the Public Relations budget, for sponsorship of the 2026 Men's and Women's Conference, \$XXX each, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Patterson. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the November 12<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. Discussion occurred, voted upon and passed.

**MOTION:** Jay Oconer made a motion to donate \$XXX, from the Youth budget, to support one student planning to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis 11/20/25 to 11/22/25, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Frank Hare. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the November 12<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. Discussion occurred, voted upon and passed.

**MOTION:** Jay Oconer made a motion to donate \$XXX, from the Youth budget, to support the Seton American Heritage Group, 2<sup>nd</sup> by DJ Murphy. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the November 12<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. Discussion occurred, voted upon and passed.

Bob Coholich is working on the "Scared Heart of Jesus" program with Tim Bowie assisting him, planning a June weekend for this event. Feast day is June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Dick Petersen has volunteered to lead a committee with Ray Ganem as a consultant to review the results of the Council's SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis that occurred on 7/8/25. With the next step is to have the committee pick out the top 5 items in each category to see where the Council is now, where do we want to be and how do we get there. The committee can then make a presentation with their recommendations to the Officers at a business planning meeting and then at a membership meeting as to how to get people involved and a strategy to implement it. Plans to have a meeting over the next few weeks to get started.

**New Business:** None

**Field Agent:** Absent, no report.

**District Deputy Report:** Steve Doyle mentioned the SOS deadline was moved from April 15<sup>th</sup> to Marsh 15<sup>th</sup> due to IRS guidelines. Father JP Walker, Chaplain for the State, from the Cincinnati diocese had a minor stroke. Past State Deputy report is in the November State Council Newsletter. Wished everyone a Blessed Thanksgiving.

**Brothers in Need:** Charlie Giametta (RIP), Carl Maslanka, Terry & Kathy Blades, Sandra Blamer, Maureen Patterson, Cathy Patterson, Franzisca Christian, Gertraud Christian, Sarah Rigsby, Ellen Laughery, Father John P. Walker, Ann Brown, Lexie Hilbert, Marty Maul, Jill Mason, Sharon Coholich, Owen Coholich, Mary Brotzge, Tom Vincent, Jill O'Leary, Mike Gohr and Father Colin King & Parishners.

**Lecturer Report:** Dick Petersen asked the Knights to reflect on the three days of ALLHALLOWTIDE where we remember the Saints and the souls of all the faithfully departed; Hallow's Eve on 10/31, All Saints' Day on 11/1 and All Souls' Day on 11/2. Pray for the souls in Purgatory and think about asking the Saints to help us as we journey through different parts of life and faith. Several Knights attended the

last Catholic Men's Luncheon at St. Patrick Church where Bishop Earl spoke following the 11:45 am mass, encouraged Knights to attend as they are held the first Friday of every month.

**SOS Fund:** \$XXX was collected this evening for the "Support our Seminarians".

#### **Other Comments:**

Dick Petersen gave an update on Terry Blades hospitalization, keep him in your prayers.

Dick Petersen mentioned that the Diocese effective January 1<sup>st</sup> is requesting training again for "Protection God's Children" for those that were trained over 5 years ago.

Wayne Patterson mentioned that the doors to the school entrance to get to Herrmann Hall will open at 6:15 pm for both the Business Planning and Membership meetings.

Ray Ganem would like to have the Knights start to think of how to be involved on celebrating the country's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary next July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Wayne Patterson has Christmas Cards once again this year to support 43 seminarians at the Josephinum. See him if interested, mail the card along with a \$XXX gift card, seminarian needs to receive prior to 12/5/25.

Advocate Frank Hare officially closed the meeting at 8:10 pm with a prayer from Father Leo, everyone was invited to join for a social gathering. Next Business Planning Meeting is scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm and Membership Meeting is scheduled for December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, rosary prayed at 6:30 pm. Both meetings will be held in Herrmann Hall.

#### **Business Meeting Notes - December 3, 2025**

Grand Knight Chuck Slaby called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm with a prayer.

Welcome to Brother Louis Nkom who became a Knight at the 11/23/25 Exemplification.

**Grand Knight Report:** GK Chuck Slaby started with a Happy Advent to all. Any Knight working with children should have received an email from the Parish indicating that your background check needs to be updated every 5 years, tonight there is a "Protecting God's Children" training in Classroom 7 & 9. Pancake Breakfast is 12/14 with Santa & Keep Christ in Christmas contest, plans to pass out flyers to the religious class students on 12/7. Consecration of Holy Family will be 12/27-28. Membership meeting is 12/10 and Assembly meeting is 12/11.

**Deputy Grand Knight Report:** Open, no report.

**Chaplain Report:** Absent, no report.

**Treasurer's Report:** DJ Murphy emailed the financial report to the officers, program chairs, and those who requested a copy, email him back if there are any questions or if anyone else wants a copy. Everything has been reconciled. George Bartos emailed on 11/28 information pertaining to paying 2026 dues on line, so far 48 people have paid electronically. George will mail out statements on 12/15 for those that had not yet paid.

**Financial Secretary Report:** GK Chuck Slaby on behalf of George Bartos reported that he emailed the Officers and Director the December State Council Newsletter and Diocese Chapter November notes, if anyone else would like a copy, let him know. State Convention is 5/22-24/26 in Columbus, if interested in attending let GK Chuck Slaby or George know. If you would like to help out with the event, contact Treasurer Chris Sarka at 614.546.6357 or [c\\_sarka@hotmail.com](mailto:c_sarka@hotmail.com). Emailed on 11/28/25 information pertaining to 2026 dues on Payment portal on "WeShare", try to pay online to save postage, some of the 20 with past due balances have already

paid. Plans to mail paper statement on 12/15/25. Supreme Per Capita, around \$XXX, will be due at the beginning of January. Fraternal Survey form 1728 is due by 1/31/26.

**Chancellor Report:** Absent, no report.

**Advocate Report:** Frank Hare, no report.

**Membership Report:** GK Chuck Slaby on behalf of George Bartos reported as of 11/30/25 we currently have 297 members, includes Jeff Reuhle, Philip Oteng, and Louis Nkom from the 11/23/25 Exemplification. Next Exemplification in Church is 1/25/26, currently have 3 new candidates that have been read, but have 51 members that do not have their 3<sup>rd</sup> degree.

**Warden Report:** Werner Christian, no report.

**Trustees Report:** Jesus Garcia indicated the Trustees will be conducting their semi-annual audit on 1/14/26 at 6:30 pm prior to the January membership meeting.

### **Programs and Committees**

**Program Director:** Absent, no report.

**Report of the Fourth Degree:** Faithful Navigator Joe Douglas has application forms for any 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Knight interested in attending a Fourth Degree Exemplification next spring. Frank Hare invited 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Knights to join as a guest the Assembly's Christmas Party at St. Pius X on 12/11/25 with a nice meal served at 6:45 pm, no regular meeting that evening.

**Community Report:** Wayne Patterson, no report

**Faith/Vocations Report:** Thom Laughery will need volunteers to help pass out to children 300 Christmas activity books, cost \$XXX each, after masses the weekend of 12/20/25.

**Youth Director:** Absent, no report.

**Culture of Life Report:** Absent, no report.

**Public Relation:** Absent, no report.

**Pancake Breakfast:** Frank Hare mentioned that help will be needed at the complimentary 12/14/25 Pancake Breakfast with free will donations being accepted.

**Coat Drive:** Dick Petersen stated that they already have 60 to 70 coats for next year, thanked everyone for their support, there is a \$XXX liability.

**Portsmouth Food Drive:** Dick Petersen mentioned that volunteers could sign up to go to Portsmouth 12/19-21/25 as everything will be done down there, sorting food on Saturday, passing them out on Sunday, and some cooking will be done as well.

**Game Night with the Knights:** 20 people attended the 1/14/25 event. Next one is 1/13/26 at 7 pm in the PAC, open to all Seton Parishioners. Snacks and beverages are provided. Thanks to Andy & Jennifer Reitz for running this event.

**District Deputy Report:** Absent, no report.

**Field Agent:** Absent, no report.

### **Unfinished Business:**

Bob Coholich is working on the "Scared Heart of Jesus" program with Tim Bowie assisting him, planning a June weekend for this event.

Dick Petersen has volunteered to lead a committee with Ray Ganem as a consultant to review the results of the Council's SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis that occurred on 7/8/25. With the next step is to have the committee pick out the top 5 items in each category to see where the Council is now, where do we want to be and how do we get there. The committee can then make a presentation with their recommendations to the Officers at a business

planning meeting and then at a membership meeting as to how to get people involved and a strategy to implement it. Dick is getting his committee together and plans to have their first meeting in mid-January.

### **New Business:**

**MOTION:** GK Chuck Slaby on behalf of George Bartos made a motion to donate \$XXX, from the Council Fund, to the Bishop Griffin Resource Center on behalf of the Seton Parish staff in lieu of giving the staff a Christmas basket, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Patterson. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the December 10<sup>th</sup> membership meeting.

**MOTION:** GK Chuck Slaby on behalf of Jay Oconer made a motion to donate \$XXX, from the Youth Fund, to SPY for their annual Confirmation Retreat which will occur 1/16-18/26, this will support about 5 students to enable them to attend the retreat, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Douglas. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the December 10<sup>th</sup> membership meeting.

**MOTION:** Wayne Patterson made a motion to spend \$XXX, from the Community budget, to purchase three \$XXX gift cards to send along with the remaining 3 Christmas Cards for the Seminarians, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jesus Garcia. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the December 10<sup>th</sup> membership meeting.

**MOTION:** Thom Laughery made a motion to donate \$XXX, from the Faith Activities budget, for the 2025 Matching Funds Contribution program which is "Growing the Faith through Catholic Education" 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Patterson. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the December 10<sup>th</sup> membership meeting.

**MOTION:** Thom Laughery made a motion to donate \$XXX, from the Faith Activities budget, to the Seton Parish Portsmouth Food Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ray Ganem. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the December 10<sup>th</sup> membership meeting.

**MOTION:** Jesus Garcia made a motion to spend \$XXX, from the Administrative budget, for renewal of the .org and .com domains for both the Knights Council 11187 & Assembly 2900, \$75 each, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Patterson. Officers voted/approved to have further discussion/voting at the December 10<sup>th</sup> membership meeting.

### **Other Comments:**

Wayne Patterson thanked everyone who took a Christmas Card supporting the seminarians at the Josephinum, he had a total of 86 cards and all were taken, except for 3.

Grand Knight Chuck Slaby closed the meeting at 7:25 pm with prayer. Membership Meeting in Herrmann Hall is scheduled for December 10th at 7 pm, rosary will be prayed at 6:30 pm.

*Vince Pulles,*

Recorder



### Reflection for December

This year we began Advent on November 30 with the Gospel of Matthew (24:37-44) reminding us of Christ's teaching "**you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.**" While Advent is a time of preparation for the birth of Christ, it is also a time to reflect on **Memento Mori** (Remember Death) a pledge we all made upon entering the Knights. It is not a macabre fear of dying, but rather a looking ahead to being in heaven with Christ and all our fellow Christians and family. Below is the new editor of Magnificat magazine Father Philip Nolan, O.P.'s reflection on this time:

### Facing the unknown

Uncertainty marks every beginning in human life. As I begin this exciting ministry with Magnificat, I have, of course, some sense of what will be required of me. But, if I'm honest, I'm also a bit intimidated by the many unknown tasks that surely await. Such is life. All of us wake up not knowing what the day will bring. Parents welcome new children into the world, not knowing who these little ones will become. Marriages begin with spouses not knowing the detailed ways in which they will be asked to live out their vows. We walk the path of life with no way of telling what's around the next bend.

Very often, our ignorance of tomorrow becomes today's anxiety. We try to prepare for every contingency, but in the end that's impossible and leaves us exhausted. For the Christian, however, ignorance of the future need not be cause for terror. Why? Because we know that whatever else comes, the good Lord will be there. We do not always know how he will come. We do know that he will come. At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.

He will come, whether swaddled in a manger, stripped on the cross, or raised in glory. He will come in the gift of a deepened faith. He will come in the strength he gives us when he asks us to bear what we never thought ourselves capable of enduring. He will come in a surprise moment of understanding in a difficult relationship. And, ultimately, he will come when we pass beyond the veil of this life. However frightening the future may look, for us it also bears a promise-the promise of theophany, an encounter with our God.

While we do await the full revelation of his presence, even now God is already with us to lead us through what lies ahead. He is behind and before (Ps 139:5). He led us along the path that brought us to today and awaits us on the path ahead. Our prayer is a cry for direction, a need so beautifully expressed by Saint John Henry Newman:

**Lead, Kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom,  
Lead Thou me on;  
The night is dark, and I am far from home,  
Lead Thou me on.  
Keep Thou my feet;  
I do not ask to see the distant scene;  
One step enough for me.**

We head into the unknown, but we are sure of our guide. If we cannot see tomorrow, it is because he is asking us to trust him today. If we are lost, he is seeking us. If we are afraid to start, he is gently drawing us forward. Yes, there is much we do not know about the future. But we know this: he will be there.

*Richard Petersen, PGK*

Lecturer

### Winter Health and Wellness Tips

Happy Advent Brothers!

Below are some suggestions for staying safe and healthy this winter season:

**Stay well hydrated.** According to Massachusetts General Hospital (and Massachusetts sure knows something about winter temperatures) cold weather can make you feel less thirsty. Reduced thirst, coupled with the extra physical activities of the season (shoveling snow, holiday shopping or decorating) can greatly increase your risk of dehydration. Tips for winter hydration: sip on warm water, hot herbal teas, or a cup of steaming low sodium broth. Make lots of homemade soups with vegetables and snack on fruits and veggies that have a high water content (for example: melons, tomatoes, celery, and citrus fruits). Limit caffeine intake because it is a diuretic. If you can't give up coffee, drink one extra glass of water for every cup.

**Use a humidifier.** During very cold days when the furnace is constantly running, the air in your home can become extremely dry. According to Cleveland Clinic, this can reduce the ability of your nasal passages to trap germs. If your home doesn't have a furnace humidifier, you can purchase some inexpensive room home humidifiers.

**Take Airborne, Emergen-C, or other immunity supplements before travel or big holiday parties.** Give your immune system a boost ahead of time when you know you will be around a big group of people or crammed into a full plane for Christmas travel.

**Carry an emergency winter kit in your car.** In case a sudden or unexpectedly strong winter storm strands you somewhere, it's good to carry an emergency kit. Things to include: high calorie and protein filled snacks, 6 bottles of water, a candle and matches, a heavy blanket. Also, you may want to include a bright colored scarf or bandanna to tie around your car antenna if you are stuck on the road in a blizzard.

Stay up to date on your shingles, flu, and pneumonia vaccines. **Do holiday shopping early in the morning to reduce stress and exposure to winter illnesses.** Early shopping + less traffic + fewer people out + less congested shopping aisles = less stress and germ exposure.

**Eucharistic Adoration.** Outside of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, there is no better way for a Catholic and Brother Knight to reduce stress amid holiday preparations than to spend time with our Lord in Adoration. If you find your schedule is packed with the holiday hustle and bustle, even 15 minutes spent with our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration is the best time well spent. You can stop at the Seton Adoration Chapel before or after work.

Jesus is there waiting 24/7 to spend time with you!

I pray the Lord blesses you and your families as the Church begins another Liturgical year! Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!

*Matthew Garcia*

Council Health Director

Sources:

1. **Massachusetts General Hospital**  
<https://www.massgeneral.org/news/article/the-importance-of-winter-hydration>
2. **Cleveland Clinic**  
<https://health.clevelandclinic.org/can-best-combat-effects-dry-winter-air>

# The Nativity Story ...

About two thousand years ago, in the town of Nazareth, there lived a young woman named Mary. She was engaged to be married to Joseph, a carpenter. One day an angel appeared before her and told her she had been chosen to have a special baby. The baby would be God's son and she must call him Jesus.

Soon after the angel's visit, Mary and Joseph were married. Mary was due to have her baby when they were told they had to go on a long journey to Bethlehem, which was where Joseph came from. This was because they had to pay a special tax. Mary had to ride on a donkey for a few days over the hills of Galilee.

At last Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem. It was crowded with other people who needed to pay their taxes. Mary was very tired and needed a place to stay. At each inn, the story was the same. There was no room for them. Eventually, one kind innkeeper said he had a stable where he kept his animals. They were welcome to stay there.

And so it was that a few hours later, Mary gave birth to her son in that stable. She wrapped Jesus in strips of cloth and laid Him in a manger full of hay.

At the same time, on a hillside overlooking Bethlehem, some shepherds were watching over their sheep. A bright light appeared in the sky. They were very afraid. It was an angel sent by God. The angel told them not to be afraid, because he had some good news. He said the Son of God had been born and they would find Him in Bethlehem.

The shepherds wanted to go and see the baby. When they arrived at the stable, they were filled with joy at seeing Jesus lying in the manger. They knelt down and worshipped Him. They told Mary and Joseph how the angel had appeared in the sky and told them that Jesus was to be the Savior of the world.

A New Star in the Sky Far away in the East, three wise men named Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar, saw a new star shining high in the sky. These men, who were kings, studied the stars and they knew this was a very special star. They studied their scrolls where it said that whenever a bright new star appeared it meant that a great ruler had been born.

The three wise men decided to find this new ruler. They went to Jerusalem to see King Herod, as they thought the baby would be in the palace. They asked to see the child that would be King of the Jews. The king was troubled. He thought this new king may take away his throne. He told them to return when they had found the baby so that he could worship the child himself.

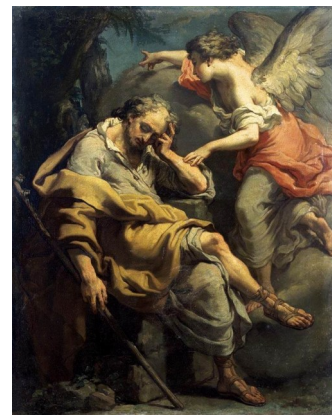
The wise men set off to find the baby. They were guided by the star to the stable in Bethlehem. Here they knelt down and worshipped Jesus. They gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. That night, the three men had the same dream where an angel warned them that King Herod wanted to kill Jesus and told them not to go back to his palace.

The wise men went back to their own country without calling to see Herod. Soon after Joseph had a dream where an angel told him to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt as King Herod had ordered that Jesus be killed. They left Bethlehem right away. When the wise men did not return, Herod ordered that baby boys in Bethlehem be killed. They did not find Jesus as he was safe.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**



The Annunciation  
by Luca Giordano



Joseph's Dream  
by Gaetano Gandolfi



Angels visit the Shepherds



The Magi



Flight to Egypt

## Happy Birthday - December

Charles Amos  
Jay Brandt  
Patrick Cleary  
Robert Coholich  
James Comer  
Michael Gohr  
Chris Gregg  
Thomas Kaminski  
Stephen Kill  
David Lauzau  
Emmanuel Lee  
Jacob (Jake) Marecic

Garry McGovern  
Timothy Mularcik  
Harold Ray  
David Schalk  
Frank Spiers  
Steven Thomas  
Jonathan Thomas  
Brian Thompson  
Lawrence Van Orman  
William Weber  
Chris White  
Luke Woods

## For more information on Pro-Life Activities

Email us at [prolife@usccb.org](mailto:prolife@usccb.org)  
Pro-Life Activities  
3211 4th Street, N.E.,  
Washington DC 20017-1194  
(202) 541-3000



## Chancellor's Corner

By the time you read this, we are now in the holy season of Advent, where we eagerly await and anticipate Our Lord deigning to become one of us, by taking on our mortal mantle of flesh. Last December, I included the poem, "Noel" by J.R.R. Tolkien, for all members to be able to read and reflect on during the Advent season. It is my intention to provide this poem to all members every December, hopefully making this a new yearly Advent tradition that you can share with your family.

### Noel by J.R.R. Tolkien

Grim was the world and grey last night:  
The moon and stars were fled,  
The hall was dark without song or light,  
The fires were fallen dead.

The wind in the trees was like to the sea,  
And over the mountains' teeth  
It whistled bitter-cold and free,  
As a sword leapt from its sheath.

The lord of snows upreared his head;  
His mantle long and pale  
Upon the bitter blast was spread  
And hung o'er hill and dale.

The world was blind,  
the boughs were bent,  
All ways and paths were wild:  
Then the veil of cloud apart was rent,  
And here was born a Child.

The ancient dome of heaven sheer  
Was pricked with distant light;  
A star came shining white and clear  
Alone above the night.  
In the dale of dark in that hour of birth  
One voice on a sudden sang:  
Then all the bells in Heaven and Earth  
Together at midnight rang.

Mary sang in this world below:  
They heard her song arise  
O'er mist and over mountain snow  
To the walls of Paradise,  
And the tongue of many bells was stirred  
in Heaven's towers to ring  
When the voice of mortal maid was heard,  
That was mother of Heaven's King.

Glad is the world and fair this night  
With stars about its head,  
And the hall is filled with laughter and light,  
And fires are burning red.  
The bells of Paradise now ring  
With bells of Christendom,  
And Gloria, Gloria we will sing  
That God on earth is come.

## SUPER DELUXE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

### 2025

12 October  
09 November  
14 December w/Santa



### 2026

11 January  
08 February



## News Bits

### From the Council:

The 2025 dues collection will soon be underway. We will start with online collection beginning in November. Please watch your email for details. Please consider paying online before December 14th to save the Council the printing and postage costs of mailing a paper statement.

## SPO Update

Hey team!

We made it to the midpoint of our Fall semester at UST which means we are settled into a community rhythm of small groups, Lord's day dinners, events, and household life. One of our greatest joys on campus is hosting weekly men's and women's groups. Every Fall semester we ask students to commit to coming every Thursday night to deep dive into relationships and to grow as men and women of the Lord. This year we have been blown away by God's faithfulness to us - we have seen so much fruit and growth in our communities this year. Right now, we are getting ready to ramp into our men's and women's retreats the weekend of November 21-23. Before we get there, we wanted to share some highlights with you. I attached a newsletter to this email with a few student testimonies on the gift of small groups so far this year.

We would love to invite you to pray for our students, here are a few intentions for these next few weeks:

- for our men's and women's households that they experience a real depth in relationship with the Lord and allow community life to form them and mold them.
- for our men's and women's group small groups that men and women encounter Christ in one another.
- for our mission team as we prepare for men's and women's retreats that we may lead with expectant faith.

Thank you! Your generosity and your sacrifice make this ministry possible. I pray you experience God's faithfulness in a new way this week!

## Dustin Goodchild

Chapter Leader, University of St. Thomas

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(C): (614) 769-4440

SPO: (651) 451-6114

WWW.SPO.ORG



# 2025/2026 Council 11187 Calendar

## July

02 Business Meeting - 6:30  
05 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
06 Knight's Mass  
09 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
16 Assembly Meeting - 6:45  
30 Business Meeting - 6:30

**04 Independence Day**

**27 Exemplification Sanctuary/HH**

## October

01 Business Meeting - 6:30  
04 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
05 Knight's Mass  
08 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
15 Assembly Meeting - 6:45

**12 Council Anniversary**

**13 Columbus Day**

**12 1st Pancake Breakfast**

**25 Family Fun Festival**

## January 2026

03 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
04 Knight's Mass  
07 Business Meeting - 6:30  
14 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
21 Assembly Meeting - 6:45

**01 New Year's Day**

**19 MLK Birthday**

**11 4th Pancake Breakfast**

**16\* Card Knights PAC 7-11**

**18 Free Throw Contest PAC 2-4pm**

**25 Exemplification Sanctuary/HH**

## April

04 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
05 Knight's Mass  
08 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
15 Assembly Meeting - 6:45

**15 Tax Day**

**29-04 Holy Week**

**5 Easter**

**18 Blue Coats Dinner (PAC)**

**17 Card Knights PAC 7-10**

**26 Exemplification Sanctuary/HH**

\* Herrmann Hall

## August

02 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
03 Knight's Mass  
06 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
20 Assembly Meeting - 6:45

**School Starts**

**10-15 Festival Final Prep**

**15-17 Seton Festival**

**17 Car Show**

**30 Seton Open**

## November

02 Knight's Mass  
05 Business Meeting - 6:30  
08 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
12 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
19 Assembly Meeting - 6:45

**04 Election Day**

**11 Veterans Day**

**28 Thanksgiving**

**14\* Card Knights PAC 7-11**

**9 2nd Pancake Breakfast**

**23 Exemplification Sanctuary/HH**

## February

01 Knight's Mass  
04 Business Meeting - 6:30  
07 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
11 Membership Meeting - 7:00 PAC  
25 Assembly Meeting - 6:45

**14 Valentine's Day**

**16 President's Day**

**18 Ash Wednesday**

**08 5th Pancake Breakfast**

**20 1st Fish Fry**

**27 2nd Fish Fry**

## May

02 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
03 Knight's Mass  
06 Business Meeting - 6:30  
13 Membership Meeting - 7:00 PAC  
20 Assembly Meeting - 6:45

**10 Mother's Day**

**25 Memorial Day**

**16 Wives' Appreciation Dinner**

## September

03 Business Meeting - 6:30  
06 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
07 Knight's Mass  
10 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
17 Assembly Meeting - 6:45

**01 Labor Day**

**19 Card Knights PAC 7-11**

## December

03 Business Meeting - 6:30  
06 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
07 Knight's Mass  
10 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
11 Assembly Meeting - 6:45

**24 Christmas Eve**

**31 New Year's Eve**

**25 Christmas Day**

**14 3rd Pancake Breakfast (Santa)  
KCiC Poster Contest**

**27-28 Consecration of Holy Family**

## March

01 Knight's Mass  
04 Business Meeting - 6:30  
07 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
11 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
18 Assembly Meeting - 6:45  
25 Business Meeting - 6:30

**17 St Patrick's Day**

**06 3rd Fish Fry**

**13 4th Fish Fry**

**14 St. Patty's Party**

**20 5th Fish Fry**

**27 6th Fish Fry**

**28 Easter Egg Hunt**

**29 Palm Sunday**

## June

03 Business Meeting - 6:30  
06 Knight's Mass  
07 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
10 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
17 Assembly Meeting - 6:45

**14 Flag Day**

**14 Father's Day**

**19 Juneteenth**

## December 2025

03 Business Meeting - 6:30  
06 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
07 Knight's Mass  
10 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
11 Assembly Meeting - 6:45 St. Pius X

24 Christmas Eve  
31 New Year's Eve

25 Christmas Day

14 3rd Pancake Breakfast (Santa)  
14 KCiC Poster Contest  
27-28 Consecration of Holy Family

## January 2026

03 Rosary EC - 8:00 AM  
04 Knight's Mass  
07 Business Meeting - 6:30  
14 Membership Meeting - 7:00  
21 Assembly Meeting - 6:45

01 New Year's Day  
19 MLK Birthday

11 4th Pancake Breakfast

16\* Card Knights PAC 7-11  
18 Free Throw Contest PAC 2-4pm  
25 Exemplification Sanctuary/HH



Comments or Articles  
Jesus Garcia  
Phone: (6\*\*) 256 9809  
Email: jvlag3@charter.net



Prospect Card



Join Us

## Prayer Corner

Charlie Giametta (RIP), Carl Maslanka, Terry & Kathy Blades, Sandra Blamer, Maureen Patterson, Cathy Patterson, Franzisca Christian, Gertraud Christian, Sarah Rigsby, Ellen Laughery, Father John P. Walker, Ann Brown, Lexie Hilbert, Marty Maul, Jill Mason, Sharon Coholich, Owen Coholich, Mary Brotzge, Tom Vincent, Jill O'Leary, Mike Gohr and Father Colin King & Parishioners. Country of Israel. All the priests and religious, our military, and first responders.

## 2025/26 Council Officers

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Chancellor (chancellor@kofc11187.com)

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**George Bartos** (2\*1\*6) 701-0081

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**DJ Murphy** (6\*\*) 551-6185

Recorder (recorder@kofc11187.com)

**Vince Pulles** (6\*\*) 321-4395

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**Werner Christian** (6\*\*) 619-2344

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**Sergio Martinez** (6\*\*) 577-0198

Outside Guard

**John Joodi** (6\*\*) 397-2719

3 Year Trustee (trustees@kofc11187.com)

**Francis Wilamosky, PGK** (6\*\*) 561-1961

2 Year Trustee

**Thom Laughery, PGK** (6\*\*) 837-3623

1 Year Trustee

**Jesus Garcia, PGK, PFN** (6\*\*) 256-9809

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**Richard Petersen, PGK** (6\*\*) 981-2761

Membership (membership@kofc11187.com)

Publicity (publicrelations@kofc11187.com)

**Chris Heine** (6\*\*) 448-8520

District Deputy

**Steve Doyle** sdoyle002@insight.rr.comm (6\*\*) 546-7742

Field Agent

**Gregory M. Dowdell** (7\*\*) 406-0041







## COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



Dear Francis Wilamosky,

The Columbus Catholic Women's Conference invites you to join us for the 2026 conference: *Look to Him and Be Radiant*, to be held on **Saturday, February 21, 2026** at the Ohio Expo Center. Join us for our 18th annual conference and be radiant with the joy of Christ's love for you! This year's conference will keep the same schedule as last year, beginning with our first excellent speaker at 8 AM and closing with Vigil Mass at 4 PM. Join us for a day filled with spiritual graces as we hear from our highly acclaimed speakers and join in adoration and worship together.

We are thrilled to announce our conference speaker lineup:

**Columbus Catholic Women's Conference: Mother Natalia, Meg Hunter-Kilmer, Fr. John LoCoco, Sr. Mary Grace, SV, Rachel Muha, Meredith Joy Keller (Music), and Jennifer Rice (Emcee).** Visit [www.columbuscatholicwomen.com](http://www.columbuscatholicwomen.com) for bios on our speakers.

**Catholic Men's Conference (February 28, 2026): Fr. Robert Spitzer and Justin Fatica.** Visit [www.catholicmensministry.com](http://www.catholicmensministry.com) for more information.

We anticipate the combined conference attendance to exceed 6,000 attendees! *These conferences would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors, who sustain us.* **We want to thank those who have supported us in the past and ask you to prayerfully consider sponsoring the 2026 Women's and Men's conferences.** Your gifts are vital to keep the registration fees low and to provide scholarships for those with financial need.

As a special thank you for your donation, sponsors will receive complimentary tickets to either conference and a parking pass.\* Additionally, all sponsors will have preferred conference seating and significant recognition during both conferences. All gifts are tax-deductible, and you will receive a letter for tax purposes. **To have your name listed in the printed programs, we must receive your donation by January 5, 2026.**

We appreciate your kind consideration and your prayers for the success of the conferences!

In the Light of Christ,  
**CCWC Co-Directors**

Michele Faehnle  
Michele Niklaus

[sponsorship@columbuscatholicwomen.com](mailto:sponsorship@columbuscatholicwomen.com)

### **CCWC Sponsorship Team**

Erin Neal  
Jessica Schmitt  
Christine Braun

Julane Zgonc  
Karen Szolosi

*\*Sponsorship gifts made from a donor advised fund are not eligible for tangible benefits, per IRS regulations.*



JOIN US FOR A

# Christmas party

## **Pope Saint John Paul II Assembly 2900 will have their Christmas Dinner and Party**

- Date – Thursday December 11, 2025
- Where – St. Pius X Msgr. Funk Center  
1051 S Waggoner Rd, Reynoldsburg
- Time – 6:45 PM

Our dinner will feature spiral sliced ham, with sides and desserts provided by our Assembly families. Following the meal, we will conduct our annual "White Elephant" gift exchange.

All gifts, including a **\$50** cash prize, will be provided by the Assembly. We encourage everyone to come prepared to share some holiday cheer and enjoy each other's company.

**It's a great opportunity to connect and celebrate the season!**



*All attending are asked to bring unwrapped gifts for Central Ohio Veterans. Some suggestions are:*

- Toiletries
- T-Shirts, underwear, socks
- Individual snacks and candy
- Cards, stamps, envelopes
- Art and craft kits

