

Knights December Newsletter

December 19, 2018

Brother Knights,

Through all of your efforts, we had another very successful faith and service filled month.

Congratulations to our two newest members, Nick Brown and Justin Schaefer. Brothers Nick and Justin completing their Admission Degree on Wednesday, December 19. Nick is a Seminarian and parishioner from St. John Neumann. Going forward we will be supporting Nick. Please pray for Nick as he goes through his priestly formation. Justin was recruited through the That Man is You program. He has been attending the TMIY sessions weekly and is ready to become more involved in our parish. Welcome brothers!

The **Knight of the Month** was awarded to Marshall Grazioli. Marshall is the chairman of the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge and Free Throw Contest. He holds the officer position of Lecturer which entails presenting Catholic topics of interest at our monthly meetings. Marshall is a table leader for Alpha and a Religious Education teacher. He has been active for years in Christian Service projects, including Right to Life projects, like Baby Bottle Boomerang, Right to Life crosses posted at SJN yearly, and the March for Life in Westland. Marshall is also a member of the SJN Holy Rollers bowling league.

The **Family of the Month** has been awarded to the Jeff and Lynne Matheny family, including grandsons Charlie and Jonathan. Both Jeff and Lynne are Eucharistic Ministers and Sacristans. Lynne is also a Sacristan at All Saints School where grandsons Charlie and Jonathan attend school. The grandsons have enjoyed helping Lynne with her Sacristan duties and can often be seen attending Sunday Mass with Jeff and Lynne. Jeff is a member of the Knights of Columbus. Both have been members of the Hospitality Committee and usually set up and coordinate the hospitality for the Saturday 4:30 Mass. In the past, they have taught Religious Education and have been involved in Youth activities. They have been parishioners for over 25 years and are also members of the SJN Holy Rollers bowling league.

Congratulations to the November award winners and thank you for your service to our parish and community.

We had a very successful **TMIY** retreat on December 1 with Mass and two sessions of TMIY. We had 55 men in attendance. Our last session of this year is this Thursday December 20. We will start this session with dinner at 6:30 pm and the program running till 8:15 pm. All Knights who are attending, please wear your Knights shirt as we will be doing a recruitment drive. Please consider joining us and invite someone to come with you. The next class for **TMIY** will start on Thursday, February 7, starting with dinner at 6:30 pm. You need not have attended the first class to attend the next class. All are welcome.

Our **Corporate Communion** will be at the 10:30 Mass on December 30. Please join us with your wife and family and wear your Knight shirt. We will be sitting on the left side pews as you approach the altar. We will have 6 -7 rows of pews reserved from the front to the back. After Mass we will have the **Consecration to the Holy Family** followed by the **Rosary**. This all takes place on the Feast of the Holy Family. This promises to be a grace filled day. Please plan to join us. Below is the article that has been running in the parish bulletin. Sign up to fill the ministry positions for the Mass here.

<https://www.volunteersignup.org/3TKA3>

Families today face many struggles, both through cultural pressure and through the personal struggles that accompany family life. Despite these struggles, and partly as a result of conquering them, families have a great capacity for love and joy, a joy that is strengthened through the peace and truth found in Christ.

To assist families in living out this joy of Christ. Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori has composed a prayer through which families may come together to consecrate themselves under the protection of the Holy Family.

The word consecration literally means "association with the sacred" and as such it requires a much larger commitment than simply reciting a prayer off of a card to receive the full benefit of intercession from the Holy Family, one must cleanse the body, mind, and soul.

The decision to consecrate your family needs to be intentional and a process through which you completely surrender to God through the Holy Family. You are accepting the truth that salvation history was changed forever by a family and that through your domestic church, you are called to live their example.

Four suggested steps before praying the Consecration to the Holy Family:

1. Discuss the importance of this consecration as a family and why you are doing it.
2. Each member of your family is strongly encouraged to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.
3. As a family, intentionally choose something to fast from. The fast can be for at least a week. As our physical bodies are drawn to things of the world, it is strongly encouraged that you fast from something that you would normally do or consume. Fasting helps to discipline our minds and our hearts to refrain from secular activities and be more focused on God.
4. Prepare for the commitment you are making. Consecration to the Holy Family is not a single event. You have chosen a way of life for your family. You and your family are consciously choosing to be a beacon of light of God's love through his church.

Additional information and prayer cards will be available at the information desk.

The **SJN Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest** will take place on January 13 from 2:30 to 4:00 pm. We will need Knights to help with this program. See attached flyer or contact the Chairman, Marshall Grazioli at mgraz5@yahoo.com, or go to the online sign up (soon to be posted) at kofc16169.org.

The **December Officer Meeting** has been moved to January 2, at 7:00 pm in the John room. All are welcome. This is your chance to learn more about the **Reverse Raffle Fundraiser**.

The **Reverse Raffle Fundraiser** will take place on Saturday March 16, starting at 6:00 pm. Mark your calendars! The tickets for the event are \$50.00 which includes your raffle ticket and dinner. More information will follow but reserve the date. It will have a St. Patrick's Day theme and promises to be a lot of fun and a huge fundraiser for us. For more information contact the Chairman, Dan Bihn at dbihn29@gmail.com. He is looking for volunteers to help on this committee. The money earned from this fundraiser will help us better support our charities, so please plan to attend and help out.

We have many people who are counting on us for our prayers. Please go to our prayer list at <http://kofc16169.org/prayer.html>. This list is continually updated by our Worthy Faithful Navigator and webmaster Gene Suchyta. Please pray for those on our prayer list.

This is a very hectic time for a lot of people, but let us really focus on what is most important, the celebration of the birth of Jesus. As we finish this Advent season and welcome Jesus, let us strive to open our hearts not only to Jesus but to all our brothers and sisters. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide us in our thoughts and actions. O Come, O Come Emmanuel. From myself, Pam, Nick, Kelli, William, Luke, the rest of my family, and from all of your Officers and their families, we wish you and your family a very Blessed Christmas.

God Bless Dan

