



Newsletter of The Archdiocese of Cincinnati Knights of Columbus – December 2024



So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee for Judaea, to Davids town called Bethlehem, since he was of Davids House and line in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.



Give the Gift of Brotherhood

When you begin to think about what you would like to write for a December opening article your mind thinks about the greatest gift God gave to mankind, His son Jesus Christ. You might also get stoic about friends and family but generally it is a joyous time of celebration. But for me this year it will be a little bit different. Early Tuesday, November 26th the state officers received a text from State Treasurer Jim Maslach that former State Membership Director Nick Gresko experienced a heart attack while vacationing on a cruise with his wife Alicia. About twenty minutes later Jim sent one of the most difficult texts anyone can send, that Nick had passed away.

I really got to know Nick when he was the state Membership Director (*Inspector Membership*) under State Deputy Robert Collins, Jr. in the spring of 2016 when the then Archdiocesan Membership Director left the position and I was asked to take over in the Arch. Over the next six months I got to know Nick really well since he was my new boss.



The 2015-2016 fraternal year was the year we made Circle of Honor. It had been quite some time since we achieved that honor. Nick was right there every step of the way bringing me up to speed. As we got closer to then end of June he would call me almost every night checking on our progress in the Arch. When he had time we'd just "shoot the bull" about sports, life, and the Knights in general. He pushed me just enough that we were able to be a part of that award winning year.

When I decided to run for State Warden in 2018 Nick was there to support me. I knew he was the brother Knight whom I would ask to give my nomination "second" at the state convention that year. Never a doubt, he gave me a powerful recommendation, and to this day I believe it made a decisive difference in the outcome.

When Nick backed off from his heavy involvement in the Knights for some personal reasons, I at the the time never asked why because I knew that decision wasn't made lightly. But Nick would not stay away from being active at a higher level for long in the Ohio Jurisdiction and he was one of the first brothers to offer his help if I needed him in any way on my upcoming state team.

State Secretaries generally don't discuss there upcoming teams until the end of June before they take office but I wanted you to know that Nick had signed up to be my State Faith Director. He called me and asked if he could meet with my State Chaplain and then go to a Reds game with our wives afterward. He was so excited about the job ahead, had so many great ideas, so much energy, and an incredible love for the Knights of Columbus.

When we talk about growth in our Order we talk about giving the gift of brotherhood to a fellow Catholic man. By getting to know this guy from Cleveland named Nick Gresko I was given the gift of brotherhood. He was and is my brother and I will miss him dearly. *MJF*

*May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.*



Suddenly, the Advent season is upon us and with it, the promise of Christmas is just a few short weeks away. Hopefully your October recruitment programs were fruitful and you're busy getting your candidates into your councils with an Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity Degree. Don't let that be the end, however. The weeks before Christmas can be a productive period to focus on inviting Catholic men to join with us! Remember, recruiting is not a date, it's a mindset.

As Advent and Christmas lead us into a deeper relationship with our Lord, the COR initiative provides us opportunities to bring men of our parishes into contact with our Faith efforts, and perhaps an opportunity to recruit them.

Any weekend can be a Delta Church Drive weekend, even in December. Don't overlook the basic, though more mundane, techniques of recruiting a new Knight – simply asking someone to join! Holding a holiday-themed membership social at your parish, or maybe just an Advent open house, can be productive. Letting the broader Parish family know of the advantages of Knighthood is always and everywhere a positive recruiting activity! Be sure to order the new Becoming Fishers of Men materials which are starting to be available from Supreme and offer new, updated materials to aid your recruiting efforts. Make use of the Fraternal Benefit Evenings to bring non-Knights into contact with our financial offerings.

Above all, be ready to talk about being a Knight of Columbus. Keep it short and keep it personal. Just as we need to witness to our Faith, we need to witness to being a Knight. As this can cover a wide range of things we do, here's a short primer on the basics of Knighthood:

The Knightly Virtues

Courage is the most admired virtue of a knight. Knights are expected to be fearless in battle and have the tenacity to overcome their enemies. However, courage also means having the moral fortitude to stand up for what was right.

Loyalty is another crucial trait for knights. They are expected to be loyal to their lord, their country, and their fellow knights. Knights are willing to sacrifice their lives to defend their lord's honor and uphold their country's laws and traditions.

Honor is the defining virtue for knights. They are expected to be truthful, just, and compassionate. A knight's honor is their most valued possession, and they will go to great lengths to defend it.

Humility is also an essential trait for knights. They are expected to be modest and self-effacing and put the needs of others before their own. Knights are taught to be aware of their own weaknesses, to strive for self-improvement, and to learn from their mistakes.

Justice is an essential virtue for knights. They are expected to be fair and impartial in their dealings with others, both in their private lives and on the battlefield.

Generosity is another important virtue for knights. They are expected to be generous with their wealth, time, and talents, giving freely to those in need, but not flaunting it or using it to oppress others.

Faith the central virtue for knights, who are deeply religious and see themselves as soldiers of Christ. Knights are expected to attend church, confess their sins, and take part in holy rituals. They are also expected to defend the Church and protect the faithful from harm.

"The true test of a knight was not in his martial prowess, but in his adherence to the code of chivalry and the virtues it embodied." – Anonymous

Be prepared to use the eMembership system. Keep the eMembership page bookmarked on your phone so you can call it up quickly. It's the fastest, easiest way to get a prospect onto your council's roster. And remember, be sure your prospects know your council number and can apply it in the eMembership form – that way you're sure of getting him onto your prospect tab.

Please keep recruiting, don't stop for anything – even the holidays! Remember, always and everywhere, recruiting is not a date, it's a mindset! Every Catholic man should have the opportunity to be a Knight of Columbus! Someone once asked each of us to join - now it's our turn to go out and ask someone else!

Till next month – Vivat Jesu!

Mark Kosobud

Arch Council Growth Status

#Achieved 100%+	0 Councils
Non Recruiting	36 Councils
Recruiting	52 of 89 Councils
% Recruiting	58%



8:00AM TO 3:30PM

**EAST CENTRAL
HIGH SCHOOL**

**PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER**

35 minutes NW of Cincy
60 minutes SE of Indy
1 Trojan Place, St. Leon, IN 47022

10TH ANNUAL E6 CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

22

FEBRUARY

Saturday
2025

Keynote speaker
Chris Stefanick

Put on the Armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil. ~Ephesians 6.11

WWW.E6CATHOLICMENSCONFERENCE.COM

Bobby Angel	Craig Pohl
Jake Khym	Fr. Jonathan Meyer

2025 Ticket Distribution

SUPER CASH BONANZA

Saturday February 8, 2025

Dayton Chapter Region and the Northern Archdiocese
Saturday, February 8, 2025
 – 3:00 PM –
 Hosted by Council #3754 (13874)
 at Saint Paul Church
 1000 W. Wenger Road
 Englewood, OH 45322
Starting promptly at 3:00 PM

Cincinnati Chapter Region and Eastern Counties
Saturday, February 8, 2025
 – 7:00 PM –
 Hosted by Council #3382
 at Saint Michael Church
 11144 Spinner Avenue
 Sharonville, OH 45241
Starting promptly at 7:00 PM

IMPORTANT: Two (2) brother Knights from your council must attend the event in order to qualify for the additional ticket sales incentive.



Jason Staas – General Agent
 Jeff Cummons – Assistant General Agent
 Chad Muhlenkamp – Assistant General Agent

Fraternal Benefits

Brothers,

As Knights, we emphasize the importance of keeping Christ in Christmas. In fact, keeping Christ at the center of everything we do is a year-round mission. Whenever we serve our parish or community, we serve Christ. I also see my service to families as a way to honor him. When I sit down with a family and help them ensure their financial protection, I am serving his Church. I think about this often, and as I look back on the year – reminiscing on all of the relationships I have made with Knights and the security I have helped provide them and their families, I am incredibly grateful.

Now, I ask you – as we close out 2024 and as you spend additional time with your family, consider how any changes from the past year might affect your life insurance portfolio. Even joyous occasions like buying a new house or sending a kid to college this fall can impact your insurance needs. Are you certain your current coverage is adequate and up to date? What would your family’s financial situation be this time next year if the unimaginable happened to you or your spouse?

If your answers to these questions are not certain, I encourage you to set up time to meet with me. Let’s work together to create a plan that would not only help protect your family but give you the peace of mind and security you all deserve.

Meanwhile, may you each have a holy and peaceful Christmas season with your loved ones. Let’s continue to focus on Jesus through the end of this year. And let’s pray for one another — especially for those who may be struggling in any way during the holidays.

If there is any way I can offer help, please reach out to me.

Thank you. Merry Christmas!

Jason Staas

Your Premier Catholic Partner for Financial Services – We can help.

INVEST WITH US

Investment Advisory Services
 Diverse Model Portfolios
 Retirement Strategies
 Personalized Service

INSURE WITH US

Life Insurance
 Disability Income Insurance
 Retirement Annuities
 Long-Term Care Insurance



Jason Staas, FICF, CLTC
 General Agent
jason.staas@kofc.org
 800-484-0304





Bret Flechtner
President
Tiffin 608
419-934-0238

John Simon
First Vice President
1617 Barberton
330-760-5140

Hank Pyles
Second Vice President
Grove City 4603
614-313-4694

Jim Lord
Treasurer
Akron 547
330-836-7552

TJ Russo
Secretary/
Communications
Cincinnati 3861
513-403-7236

DIRECTORS

Tony Russo
Cincinnati 3861
513- 543-8017

Dave Degener
Toledo 14344
567-322-0101

Rick Mitchell
Toledo 14344
419-341-0214

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

BOWLING ASSOCIATION OF OHIO

ONE HUNDRETH SEVENTH INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT – 2025
facebook.com/kofcohiobowling

LIFE MEMBERS

Patrick Fahy
Grove City 4603
614-875-6336

Mike Zacher
Wickliffe 5405
440-358-9787



Dear Brother Knight,

We look forward to you joining us for the 2025 Ohio State Bowling Tournament.

This year's 107th Invitational is held in Toledo Ohio, Miricale Lanes, 5030 Jackman Rd, Toledo, OH 43613.

Starting times for both Saturday and Sunday will be at 9AM with a 10 minute practice. We have a limit of 19 teams per weekend, so please mark your 1st and 2nd choices.

March 8th and 9th

March 15th and 16th

March 22nd and 23rd

We have 2 host hotels for 2025:

Hampton Inn at Westgate Hospitality - 3434 Secor Rd, Toledo Ohio, 43606 = 419-214-5555

Courtyard Toledo West - 3536 Secor Rd, Toledo, OH 43606 = 419-724-0444

Remember to ask for our block of rooms to get the K of C Tournament rate.

Please send me your team registration by January 1st either via email or snail mail. Arusso@gbbn.com

New bowlers can enter averages per the tournament rules, or I will work with you to get a fair average determined. Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

2025 Host Hotel - Hampton Inn at Westgate Hospitality – 3434 Secor Rd, Toledo Ohio, 43606 = 419-214-5555

2025 Host Hotel - Courtyard Toledo West – 3536 Secor Rd, Toledo Ohio, 43606 = 419-724-0444

2025 Host Lanes Miricale Lanes – 5030 Jackman Rd, Toledo, OH 43613 = 419-476-8996



Dear Brother Knight:

Council # _____

Use this form to figure the current amount due and enclose it with your entries. **IT WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU Via Email AS YOUR RECEIPT.** Remember that the full amount of the entry fee **MUST** accompany your entries.

DO NOT LIST A HALF DOUBLES TEAM. If you have an extra man, he must have a partner. No doubles or singles only entries allowed. You must enter both.

DO NOT SEND A PARTIALLY PAID ENTRY. If you have an entry that needs a sub, that spot must be paid before the Team/Doubles entry will be assigned a lane or a sub allowed to bowl.

_____	Five Man Team	@ \$95.00	_____
_____	Doubles Team	@ \$34.00	_____
_____	Singles	@ \$17.00	_____
_____	All Events	@ \$2.00	_____
Total Due			_____
Total Received			_____

Your Council is scheduled to bowl on the weekend of _____

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BOWLING ASSOCIATION OF OHIO

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH ANNUAL INVITATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

ENTRY FEE PER MAN PER EVENT

Bowling Fee \$ 10.00
 Tournament Fee 3.50
 Prize Money 3.50
 Total Entry Fee (per event) 17.00
 All Events Entry Fee (optional) . 2.00
 Total \$53.00
 1 in 8 Payout

**USBC MORAL CERTIFIED TOURNAMENT
TEAM – SINGLES - DOUBLES**

Visit us on the web at: facebook.com/kofcohiobowling
 Mirical Lanes - 5030 Jackman Rd, Toledo, OH 43613 - 419-476-8996

NOTE: DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

ENTRIES CLOSE AT MIDNIGHT, January 1, 2025

ENTRY NO.				
FIVE-MAN	TWO-MAN	ALL EVENTS	CASH	
			TOTAL	

COMBINATION ENTRY BLANK

This Entry Blank May Be Used for all Three or Five-Man Event Only.

The undersigned hereby makes entry in the contest specified below of the 107th Annual Tournament, Knights of Columbus Bowling Association of Ohio, March 8, 2025, to March 23, 2025 and agree to comply with the rules of the Association's Tournament.

The teams and individual members as listed below are bona-fide members of _____ Council # _____ City _____

FIVE-MAN TEAM CONTEST- PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NAMES			USBC SANCTION CARD NO. IF BOWLER IS SANCTIONED:	TWO-MAN & INDIVIDUAL CONTEST The word "PARTNER" will not be accepted.		Highest Avg. See Rule 2
FIVE-MAN LINE UP	Highest Avg. See Rule 2	If Entered In All Events ✓		DOUBLES LINEUP		
1.				1.		
2.				2.		
3.				1.		
4.				2.		
5.				1.		
				2.		
Name of Team:						

Captain _____ Email _____ Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

USBC MORAL CERTIFIED TOURNAMENT provides high score protection for those who have established membership in the Congress prior to participation. Allows for the participation of those not affiliated with the Congress without payment of any dues. Unaffiliated teams and individuals wishing to secure high score recognition may do so by paying \$20.00 per player with entry.

Phone # _____

Individual Averages – See Rule No. 2

RESERVATION DATE PREFERENCE: _____ SECOND CHOICE: _____

Council Contact, K of C Bowling Secretary or Bowling League Secretary

Total Entrance Fee Must Accompany Applications.

NOTE: All remittances MUST be made in form of P.O.M.O., Express Money Order or Draft and made payable to: K of C BOWLING ASSOCIATION OF OHIO and mailed on or prior to JANUARY 1st, 2025, to: Secretary TJ Russo, 3743 Pennsylvania Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45226 (513) 403-7236

	ALLEY	TIME
5-MAN SCHEDULE		
DOUBLES SCHEDULE		



Brothers Vic Lauterbach, Mark Kosobud, and State Secretary Michael Felerski are sponsoring

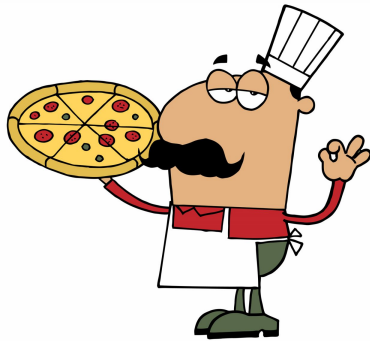


“A Knight in the Arch Before Christmas”

whereby we will give a winter pizza party to a council that:

between Nov 1, 2024 and Dec 31, 2024
recruits 3 eMembers

it's a



- AND -

transfers them *into* your council*
before December 31, 2024



pizza party

and we'll even chip in for the drinks!

*new eMember attends CUF Exemplification and appears on your Supreme council roster no later than December 31, 2024



State Growth Director Andrew Nuckols, State Secretary Michael Felerski, and Diocesan Growth Coordinator Mark Kosobud present Thomas Hahn District Deputy #14 with the **Star District Award** for 2023-2024 at the November Cincinnati Chapter Meeting



Star District District Deputies:

- Jeremy Begines District #5
- David Weeks District #6
- John Brown District #8
- Thomas Hahn District #14



State Secretary Michael Felerski presents a State Officer Directed **Measure-Up grant** check for \$1,000 to Kim Nuxhall for the Joe Nuxhall Miracle League Fields' year round facility building fund campaign.



State Growth Director Andrew Nuckols and State Secretary Michael Felerski presents Steve Yards of Joseph Cardinal Bernadin Council 12359 with the **Fast Start Q1 Award** at the November Cincinnati Chapter Meeting

Operation Veteran Caregiver Support

On November 14, 2024, PGK Erbacher on behalf of Grand Knight Tom Pitstick and Council 3724 Fairborn visited the Operation Veteran Caregiver Support offices in Piqua Ohio. After receiving a tour of the facility and getting a chance to visit with several of the veterans and staff. PGK Erbacher was pleased to be able to present a check to help the charity offset the cost of their food pantry and supplies for the veterans and veterans' families in need.

The donation was received with great gratitude by Director Valerie Mullikin and Outreach Coordinator Christina Webb.



Knights of Council 14400 and Saint Mary of the Assumption (Springboro) joined fellow pro-lifers to support the Community Pregnancy Center of Middletown. Our **Baby Bottle Campaign** raised \$10,000 to help mothers and their children to **CHOOSE LIFE!**



Knights PSD Dave Helmstetter and PGK Joe Kuebler present the Council's check for \$250 to Alyssa Lauck, **Auglaize County Family Life Center** director, at the 2nd Annual Family Life Center of Auglaize County Fall Banquet.



Cincinnati Archdiocese Quick Reference Guide 2024-2025



Web Sites...

State Council Website: www.kofcoho.org
Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/OhioKnightsOfColumbus/
Dayton Chapter: www.daytonkofc.org
Cincinnati Chapter: www.cincykofc.org
Facebook Page: Search for: ArchCincykofc

About The Arch...

A newsletter featuring relevant news and information for Knights in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati published twelve times a year! It can be viewed and downloaded at:

http://www.daytonkofc.org/DayCh_Arch_Newsletter.html

Or at kofcoho.org > For Members > Diocesan Pages > Cincinnati

To subscribe for delivery directly to your email inbox, please contact Michael Thomas at:

michaeldthomas@aol.com

State Deputy

Jeffery Kiliany
559 Walnut Street
Leetonia, OH 44431
jtktg@yahoo.com

Support Our Seminarians*

Immediate Past State Deputy Mark Siracusa
15398 Silver Pine Court
Perrysburg OH 43551-12613
cuzza52@gmail.com

**First turn-in
is Dec 15**

Matching Funds*

State Advocate Chris Sarka
7239 Winterbek Ave
New Albany, OH 43054-9097
c_sarka@hotmail.com

**Has ended for
2024**

State Growth Director

Andrew Nuckols
anuckols@cinci.rr.com

Measure Up 2024*

State Warden Tony Offenberger
15200 Muskingum River Rd
Lowell OH 45744-7115
c_sarka@hotmail.com

**Has ended for
2024**

State Program Director

Ken Girt
girtken@sssnet.com

State Membership Retention Coordinator

Michael Freil
mcfreil2019@gmail.com

Super Cash Bonanza*

State Treasurer Jim Maslach
4927 Autumnwood Ln
Brunswick, OH 44212
kofcjk@gmail.com

**Returns
February 2025**

Archdiocese Growth Team

Vic Lauterbach: North
vs_lauterbach@gmail.com

**Your Recruitment
Experts!**

Mark F. Kosobud: Cincinnati
mkosobud@yahoo.com

**They are ready to
help you!**

State Per Capita Payments*

State Secretary Michael Felerski
1580 Gelhot Dr. #234
Fairfield, OH 45014
mfelerski@icloud.com

**2024-25
invoices
are DUE**

District Deputy Coordinator

John Hoffman
JJHUSA01@gmail.com

*Make Checks payable to: Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus