

Youngstown Connection

December 2021
Volume 5 Issue 6



64 Councils Pulling Together

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Preparing the Way

Advent is a time of much anticipation as well as preparation. This special season is the beginning of a new church year where we await and prepare for the coming of the Lord. Advent stems from the Latin word "adventus", which literally means "coming". It is a time of preparation where we prepare for Christmas where we remember the birth of our Lord in His First Coming. We are also reminded of and look forward to His Second Coming as well.



As I write this, we have already lit the first candle of Advent, and by the time that you read this, the second candle will be lit. As the years roll by our time of waiting goes quickly. My point is that when we wait until this time or that time, the time comes and goes in our lives and not much is accomplished. The same goes for your council. If you wait until summer is over to start something, the next thing you know, Christmas is coming. So, then you wait until Christmas is over and Lent starts. Now you wait until after Easter and the year is almost finished. So, you find yourselves waiting until the next year and the same unfinished cycle. Don't get into this cycle of waiting all the time. Commit your resources to an event and see it through, whether it is membership, social events, a parish project, or whatever it may be.

Speaking of time going by, so much has happened around our Diocese this past month since our last newsletter was sent out. Since then, we had a live Exemplification of the 4th Degree at the Holiday Inn in Boardman. Included in this class of 28 new Sir Knights was our own Bishop David Bonnar as well as Chorbishop Anthony Spinoso from the Our Lady of Lebanon Shrine in North Jackson. Congratulations to Bishop Bonnar and Chorbishop Spinoso.

We had a number of priests from the Youngstown Diocese recently celebrate significant anniversaries of their ordination. Many of them are Chaplains of our councils. One of them is also a Former State Chaplain, Father William Kraynak, who celebrated his 40th anniversary of priesthood. Father Kraynak is Pastor at Immaculate Conception Parish in Ravenna. Congratulations to Father Kraynak and to all our priests and Chaplains who celebrated a significant anniversary this year.

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Geneva-Madison Council 5286 hosted a Novena for Life at Ashtabula St. John School, praying the rosary with fellow Knights, students, and parishioners. Knights from Stark County also remembered 40 Days for Life by standing outside the Planned Parenthood Center in Canton and praying the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet every Sunday during the 40 Days for Life.

We have a new District Deputy, Ron Santangelo, in District 80. Ron is from Fr. Venglarik council 11915 in Boardman. In addition to 11915, District 80 includes 4471 Christ Our Savior Council in Struthers, 12756 Bishop Malone Council in Boardman, and 15573 Holy Family Council in Poland. Congratulations, and thank you, Ron.

As I mentioned earlier, Advent is going by quickly and Christmas will be here before our next Newsletter comes out. I would like to thank you for all the good things that you do for your council, for your parish, and for your community. Also, we, as Knights of Columbus, support the "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign to remind people that Christmas is above all else, a holy day to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. With this in mind, my wife Judy and I would like to wish you and your families, a very Joyous and Blessed Christmas Season!

Jeff Kiliany - State Secretary

The 2021 Premier Association of MDRT Financial Professionals®



Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) is an international organization that recognizes the top 1% of financial professionals in the world. The November 2021 Columbia Magazine recognized and listed the 433 Knights of Columbus Field Agents who were recognized for their commitment to excellence, outstanding service, and highest ethical standards. We salute these men for their devotion to continuing Father McGivney's mission.

There were nine Field Agents from across the state of Ohio that were listed - David Roberts, Field Agent from Salem and the Youngstown Diocese was one of Ohio's nine. Many of you know Dave and know how hard he works for you and the Order and how dedicated he is to the Knights.



Church Bulletin Announcements

Councils should ask to place an announcement in their weekly church bulletin on a regular basis asking men to join the Council. Create an ad that is inviting and brief, containing the vital information for a man to review and direct him to a specified person in the council or the to the K of C link. A sample is below.

St. Michael The Archangel Council 15458 would like to invite the men of the parish to join the council and become a Man of Faith and Action in the Parish and Community. Contact Council Membership Director Chris Dodson at 330-284-6904 or join at <https://www.kofc.org>

Chris Dodson - Diocesan Membership Director (West), Youngstown



The Ultimate Act of Charity

A Brother Knight and Religious Brother, Marco Bulgarelli, is a member of Father Borrano-Father Gallagher Council 11369 in Canfield. Brother Marco is in urgent need of a liver transplant as well as your prayers. If any Brother Knight feels that he would consider donating a part of his liver to Brother Marco Bulgarelli the first step would be to check with the Cleveland Clinic website, which explains in detail what would be involved in being a living donor and fill out the required form. The Clinic will then contact with you for further details and a follow up.



For more information, you can contact:
Miros Maszczak
PGK Council #11369
mirosj@netzero.net

Supreme COVID Recovery Program - CRP

Supreme Council has published a booklet called the “**COVID Recovery Program**”. It was sent out to all councils at the beginning of this fraternal year. This 20-page guide contains not only steps, but also ideas for helping councils resume operations that have been put on hold since the pandemic. It can also be used to help councils who have been struggling or in the decline for the past few years.



The **COVID Recovery Program (CRP)** focuses on resuming council operations in a way that inspires members and parishioners to become reinvolved with Church and community activities. The CRP has three key elements: parish support, interactions between state and local councils, and fraternal engagement. This program provides CRP information and resources for state leaders, district deputies, and council leaders.

It contains some great ideas and information, and it is well worth spending some time going through the booklet. If you did not receive a copy, or no longer have it, you can find the PDF version of the COVID Recovery Program attached to this email or by going to kofc.org and using the search box in the upper right corner and simply enter: COVID Recovery Program.

Jeff Kiliany - State Secretary

Retention/ New Council Development

It's hard to imagine that we are into the Christmas Season, and the first half of our State Deputy's first year is over. I want to wish every one of you and your families a Very Merry and Blessed Christmas as we rejoice in the birth of our Lord Jesus. My prayers for all for the New Year - that 2022 brings you all health and happiness and the end to COVID-19.

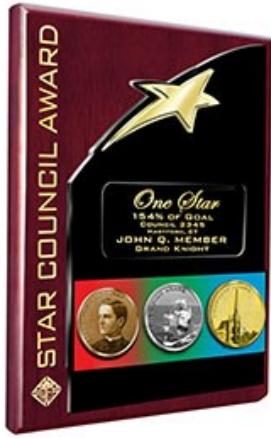
Brothers, if you have a parish in your area that does not have a council, please send me the name of the parish and the pastor's name. I will look it over with Jeff and the Membership Director in your area and make the right decision about either starting a council there or making the round table stronger there.

Brothers, if you have councils struggling to get back on their feet, please let me know, and I will contact them to help them regain their drive as a council. We need to work together to make our councils stronger.

Vivat Jesus!

Michael Jordon - Retention/NCD Director





Report of the State Special Reports Chairman

Worthy Knights of the Youngstown Diocese,

The December 1 Star Council Report for Ohio was recently distributed. Youngstown Diocese had 40 new members recruited for this fraternal year from 19 councils.

There are still 19 Youngstown councils missing their Form 365 to Supreme. Remember, this form has the email addresses for your Program Director, Family Director and Community Director, which Supreme will forward the website for Safe Environment training. And there are still 5 councils in our diocese missing the

Form 185. Please get your 365's and 185's submitted soon. District Deputies: please contact your grand knights and assist them in submitting these forms.

42 councils in the Youngstown Diocese contributed \$8,253 so far for the 2021 Matching Funds Campaign. Many of these councils had their donations "Matched" by the Ohio Charity Foundation.

10 councils in our diocese have submitted a program report so far this fraternal year.

Remember, if you participated in the Fraternal Benefit Webinar on October 13, please forward your Form 11077 to your general agent so that you can get credit. Participating in two webinars or seminars are required for achieving your Insurance Quota. Supreme Council reports that no councils in our diocese have been given credit for participating in a Fraternal Benefit Night activity. However, I believe there are some waiting to be credited, my council included. I should know. I submitted the report to my general agent!

If you have any questions about the Star Council Report, please email me at the address shown below.

And I am wishing all our members and their families a very Blessed and Joyous Christmas!

Vivat Jesus!

Ken Girt, PSD - State Special Reports Chairman

330-608-1729

girtken@sssnet.com

Online Exemplifications through Jan. - Wed. only

Below see the upcoming online exemplifications through January. The schedule has been pushed out through July 20th of 2022. Please be sure to have your candidates wishing to take their exemplification online, register at the link below in order to get the degree link.

Questions can be directed to your District Deputy or our diocesan membership team.

<https://kofcoho.org/exemplification-registration/>

12/8/2021	7:00PM	Youngstown		1/5/2022	7:00PM	Columbus
12/15/2021	7:00PM	Steubenville		1/12/2022	7:00PM	Cincinnati
12/22/2021	7:00PM	Toledo		1/19/2022	7:00PM	Youngstown
12/29/2021	7:00PM	Cleveland		1/26/2022	7:00PM	Steubenville



Membership Drives/Activities Bring in New Knights

We had several councils who had very successful membership drives and host live degrees this past month. This has given the Youngstown Diocese a big boost in membership and helped us to get back on track.

Congratulations to Massillon Council 554 who now leads the Diocese in total new members with 8 new members! Following closely are 11369, 13977, and 14186, all with 4 new members.

The highest percent increase honors belong to Holy Spirit Council 14959 with an almost 8% increase in members this year. Following them are 13977, 14186, and 15086.

Keep up the good work and let's join these top councils by following their lead in bringing in some new members and hosting live degrees. Don't wait until after Christmas. Get started now.

Jeff Kiliany - State Secretary

Table 1 - Percentage Increased

<u>#Mem 07/01</u>	<u>GAIN</u>	<u>Council</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Percent Incr</u>
39	3	14959 HOLY SPIRIT	72 JEFFREY M. WEBER	7.69%
72	4	13977 SAINT JOSEPH-AUSTINTOWN	81 JOHN MASHISKA	5.56%
84	4	14186 OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP OF AURORA	75 LONN SAFKO	4.76%
69	3	15086 IMMACOLATA	82 RAYMOND ZORNJAK	4.35%
25	1	15959 ST EDWARD	82 RAYMOND ZORNJAK	4.00%
53	2	11551 SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE	77 DANNIE LEE MCCUEAN	3.77%
123	4	11369 FATHER BORRANO-FATHER GALLAGHER	81 JOHN MASHISKA	3.25%
105	3	4571 MSGR LAVELLE	75 LONN SAFKO	2.86%
37	1	5063 CHARITY	78 JOHN TIMKO	2.70%
143	3	5286 GENEVA-MADISON	71 WILLIAM HOWE	2.10%

Table 2 - Year to Date

<u>Council</u>	<u>Council Name</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>District Deputy</u>	<u>#Mem 07/01</u>	<u>Sup Quota</u>	<u>YTD GAIN</u>
554	MASSILLON	73	MATTHEW MEYER	525	20	8
11369	FATHER BORRANO-FATHER GALLAGHER	81	JOHN MASHISKA	123	6	4
13977	SAINTE JOSEPH-AUSTINTOWN	81	JOHN MASHISKA	72	4	4
14186	OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP OF AURORA	75	LONN SAFKO	84	4	4
4571	MSGR LAVELLE	75	LONN SAFKO	105	5	3
5286	GENEVA-MADISON	71	WILLIAM HOWE	143	7	3
14959	HOLY SPIRIT	72	JEFFREY M. WEBER	39	3	3
15086	IMMACOLATA	82	RAYMOND ZORNJAK	69	3	3

Men of Faith - Men of Action

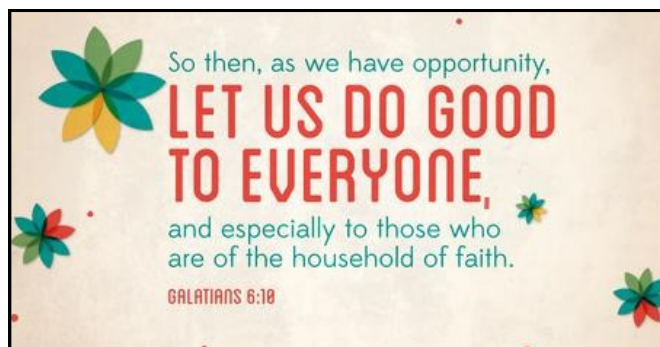
Men of Faith are also Men of Action. Keep this idea in mind when you ask a man to join your council. The Knights of Columbus offer a unique opportunity for men to stand up and show their parish and community that they are willing to be counted on to accomplish things big and small.

Many times, I have been asked by a prospective member, "What do the Knights do?" After I explain the various activities our council is involved in, I ask them what they would like to do for the parish and community. Most of the time, their interests align with what the council is already involved in. The exciting part is when a candidate can bring a fresh idea or opinion to the council to consider and implement.

This exchange of ideas can help the council grow and be vibrant. A council cannot rest on its past laurels but needs to continually push forward, energizing its members, and looking for areas of need that need the council's assistance.

Ask the candidate if he would like to be a Man of Faith and Action. The opportunity exists in the Knights of Columbus and the first step is saying "Yes" when asked.

Chris Dodson - Diocesan Membership Director (West), Youngstown



“New” Meeting Agenda for Councils

Around this time last year, Supreme sent out information about New Meeting Guidelines for council meetings. The new **Meeting Guidelines** booklet (#10318) as well as a list of frequently asked questions and answers to many potential questions regarding the meeting protocol changes. These 2 documents have also been attached to the email containing this newsletter in case you no longer have that information.

Supreme is trying really hard to help our councils adapt to today's world. E-Membership and the new Charity, Unity, and Fraternity Degree Ceremony are a couple of ways that they have made some major changes. The thinking at Supreme is that if we don't make things more streamlined for our existing and new members in these changing times, they will not take the time in their busy world to join or continue to belong to our councils. These guidelines and agendas for council meetings try to reflect what Knights want and need as members.

Please download and read the new meeting guidelines. They are designed to help you as Grand Knight to run a more efficient, meaningful, and informative meeting at the council level. Most likely many Grand Knights and Councils have already adapted and incorporated some of the suggested changes into your meeting format. Everyone voices the same complaint that they can't get members to meetings. Supreme is stressing that the meeting should take no more than 1 hour. If your meetings consist of many side discussions and topics that don't really involve your council, causing your meetings to drag on for 1-1/2 -2 hours, members just won't come back for meetings.

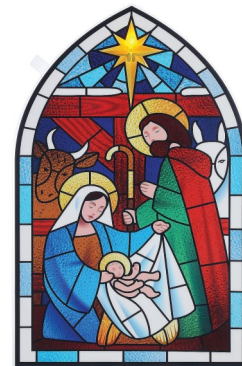
Some of the suggestions are that the officers have a meeting sometime prior to the council's regular business meeting. The agenda and topics for discussion are set at this meeting. The Financial Secretary gives his report and input at this meeting, not at the business meeting. Committees are formed and report findings and suggestions to keep business meeting discussions to a minimum. Meeting minutes from the last meeting can be sent discretely to the membership prior to the business meeting so that time to read these minutes won't be needed and take up meeting time.

Roberts Rules of Order are still used to conduct council meetings. There is a very informative section in the new Meeting Guidelines booklet devoted to Roberts Rules.

The order of the business meeting has changed some, but not real drastically from the way you have been running your meetings. A section with an outline of the meeting format with gavel raps is also listed in the guideline's booklet.

A Season of Rebirth

Seasons Greeting to all brother Knights of the Youngstown Diocese! As we enter this season of preparing for the birth of Jesus, it gives us pause to reflect on ourselves and how we, as Knights, have made our families, parish communities, and world a better place. How have each of us prepared? With the COVID crisis still upon us, it has made this a more difficult task for councils. With the tools and direction now given us by Supreme and our medical community, it is possible to again hold regular meetings and perform the activities of the Faith in Action program. Today would be the perfect day to gather your council and plan on how you are going to make this Christmas a little better for the poor, the hungry, the lonely, and less fortunate.



FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP



The Free Throw Contest is back! Councils should be lining up their gyms and ordering kits now. District Deputies should be lining up a venue for their District Shoot and ordering the medals now. The Regional (Youngstown Diocese) shoot has been confirmed. It will again take place at the James A. Garfield HS in Garrettsville. The date is February 19th, so please schedule your council and district events accordingly. If there are any questions, please email me. Details of the regional shoot will be forthcoming. This is an event that gives your council the opportunity to show the community what you do. At the registration table set up poster boards with pictures and descriptions of the activities your council has done. Maybe a Catholic dad is in with his son or daughter. This would be a great opportunity to invite him to join.

In closing, I wish to remind all District Deputies, Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, and Trustees to refer to their checklists for the required end of year reports that are coming due soon. These reports are tools used by State Council and Supreme Council in helping to serve you.

A Blessed and Merry Christmas to all and wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year! God bless you all for all you do!

God bless. Vivat Jesus!

Mark Kahanca - District Deputy Coordinator, Youngstown

Youngstown Membership Contest - Reminder

We are excited to announce a Membership Incentive program for the Youngstown Diocese councils. The Membership Directors have created a contest to encourage councils to recruit men to our Order and to put a little cash in the council's coffers, plus a great opportunity to brag a littler (or a lot) if you prefer, that your council is the best recruiting council in the Youngstown Diocese.

- The First Prize of \$150.00 will go to the council with the **Highest % Increase** of members for the Fraternal Year 2021-2022.
- The Second Prize of \$100.00 will go to the council with the **Highest Number of New Members**, regardless of council size, for the Fraternal Year 2021-2021 is \$100.00.
- If the same council achieves both marks, the \$100.00 will be paid to the 2nd place council with the **Highest % Increase**.

We will use the official numbers posted by Supreme to determine the winners. The time frame for the contest is July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022, and the winners will be announced with the check presentations at the tour meeting in July, 2022.

And as a little extra incentive, we want to recognize the Knight who proposes the Highest Number of Men to his council. That man will receive an Ohio State Council shirt and recognition as the Top Recruiter in the Diocese.

Chris Dodson - DMD - West

Peter Rich - DMD - East

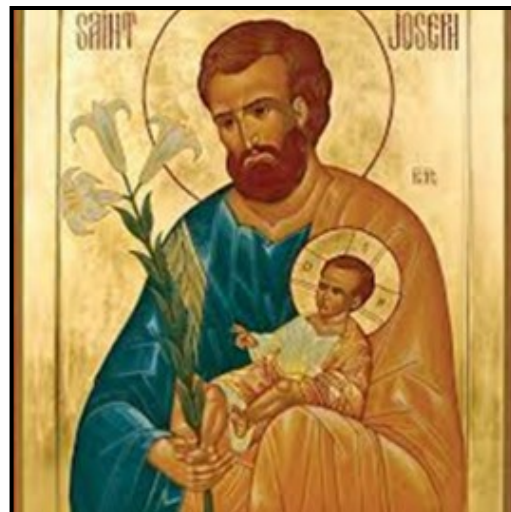
Saint Joseph - Our Spiritual Father Traveling Icon 2021-2023

Every few years, the Knights of Columbus selects an icon of a saint whose patronage is particularly inspiring to Knights and their communities. Ohio has received 4 of these icons which will travel from council to council and serve as the centerpieces for prayer services in parishes throughout the Order. Since the first traveling pilgrim icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1979, more than 174,800 council and parish prayer services with some 22 million participants have been held.

The Pilgrim Icon Program is an effort to spread devotion to St. Joseph and pray for the courage to stand up and carry out our mission of protecting, defending, and raising future generations. The prayer service, flowing from the Year of St. Joseph declared by Pope Francis in 2021, and inspired by his apostolic letter *Patris Corde*, and is sponsored by Knights of Columbus.

For more information regarding the Faith activity, you can visit the Supreme website at

<https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/faith-in-action-programs/faith/pilgrim-icon.html>



ASSIGNED DATE ON OR AFTER	YEAR	ICON 1	ICON 2	ICON 3	ICON 4
		DD #	DD #	DD #	DD #
5-Dec	2021	2	33	62	54
9-Jan		1	32	63	53
6-Feb	2022	3	31	60	52
6-Mar		4	25	56	51
3-Apr		6	30	57	55
1-May		5	24	58	50
29-May		12	34	59	76
26-Jun		17	41	61	77
24-Jul		18	43	68	80
21-Aug		8	45	64	82
18-Sep		9	42	69	81
9-Oct		11	46	66	79
6-Nov		7	47	67	78
4-Dec		13	48	65/70	83/71
8-Jan		10	49	20	75/74
5-Feb	2023	15	37	29	72
5-Mar		14	35	24	73
2-Apr		16	36	21	25
30-Apr		38	40	22	30
28-May		39	44	26	28

Icons have already been shipped to the initial districts as notated on the following timetable. Your month is pre-planned by your district number as assigned. The Youngstown Diocese visitation will begin in May 2022 and last until February 2023. Please begin planning discussions with your parish pastor and appointing a chairman to work with you on coordinating the activity. Most importantly, let your District Deputy know soon if your council is planning on participating in this program. Your District Deputy will assign the council Icon visitation schedule in your District. If there is a conflict with the dates assigned to your district, or if a special arrangement for your council/parish is needed, let your District Deputy know so that we can work this out at the January District Deputy Meeting in Columbus.

Jeff Kiliany - State Secretary



Ohio State Council December Membership Incentive

“A Knight Before Christmas”

The month of December is a beautiful month with the 4 weeks of Advent with the anticipation and Joy of the King of Bethlehem, Jesus, being born on the 25th. It is a GREAT time to recruit a New Knight BEFORE Christmas. Bring your prospective member to your Council Christmas Party (if you have one) or, if your Council helps put up a Nativity or decorates the Church, invite him and his family to help. Then get him to go to kofc.org/join and become a Knigh Before Christmas.

- The First 5 Councils in the State who sign up a New Member before December 24th, will receive \$25.00 for each New Member signed up.
- Each Proposer will receive \$25.00 for each New Member who is transferred into your Council as a New Member Before December 24.



The First 4 District Deputies who report a Net Gain in their District of 10 New Members Before December 24, will receive \$150.00

Any questions? Ask your District Deputy or your Diocesan Membership Directors.

The Officers and Staff of the Ohio State Council wish you and your family a blessed Christmas. May the peace of the season be with you throughout the New Year!!!

Please remember Jesus is the reason for the season!!!!



Bishop Bonnar Portraits

Many councils have photos in their council chambers of Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney, Pope Francis, Christopher Columbus, and our Supreme Knight. Some have photos of the late Bishop George Murry, SJ. With the appointment of Bishop David Bonnar after the death of Bishop Murry, new official photos of Bishop Bonnar are available through a company in our diocese. The company, Rudinec and Associates (rudinec.com), has 5 official poses to choose from, should any councils be interested in ordering. Once ordered, they can be shipped to you to be framed and displayed on your council chambers wall. My council paid \$28.00 for an unframed 8 X 10 such as the one pictured at right. Additional sizes and framing options are also available for additional cost.



Orders can be made by using the link www.requestaprint.net/doy/

Phil Salasek - Holy Martyrs Council #4733, Canton



Past State Deputies of Ohio 1898 to 2021



Ohio, has been served by 60 Past State Deputies. This month we continue with numbers 17 through 20 of the past state deputies of Ohio. Please check back monthly I will try to show 4 every month until all have been shown.

Joe Mackos - State Administrative Staff

17th



Frank G. Jones
1935-1937
Cleveland, OH
Council #733

18th



Ray H. Bernert
1937-1938
Steubenville, OH
Council #472

19th



Ray McKowen
1938-1939
Delphos, OH
Council #1362

20th



John D. King
1939-1941
Bellefontaine, OH
Council #1782

Why do we have Nativity scenes at Christmas?

Christmas celebrates the Incarnation – when God became one of us. This was a key part of the spirituality of St. Francis of Assisi. So, in 1223, Francis decided to celebrate the Incarnation in a special way that would help people remember the Christ Child and His humble birth. Francis wanted people to see and experience how the Christ Child lay on the hay in a manger with an ox and an ass standing by.

On Christmas Eve that year, at the appointed time, Francis’ brothers gathered at a hilltop cave in Greccio, the “new Bethlehem,” along with men, women and children from the area, to reenact the first Christmas. The torches they carried lit up the night as they approached the manger. It was as if once again shepherds were walking in the night to come and adore Him. All were filled with joy over the mystery of the Incarnation and a tradition was begun that has inspired millions since then.

As you gaze on your Nativity set, may you remember and celebrate again God’s love for all of creation. To show His abundant love, mercy and forgiveness, Jesus became a person like us. This is what the Nativity scene invites us to ponder.



“Lord, I am your servant”, new state polo shirt, please contact Willi Meyer, he is the Administrative director to the state deputy. His phone number is 1-419-206-8170 or email kofcohiomeyer@gmail.com

Willi will be able to get you the shirt, size and color you want.