

John Fitzgerald

THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

FITZGERALD COUNCIL 833
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
December 2025 Newsletter

“A Pioneer Catholic of Lincoln”



A Message from our Grand Knight:

Brother Knights,

I hope everyone had a joyous and tummy filling Thanksgiving this year. Whatever and however you chose to spend the holiday weekend, I hope you found time to also include giving thanks to God for your family, friends, and all those blessings that you enjoy! As we enter Advent season, remember to keep Christ in Christmas. As the Christmas season continues to start earlier and earlier every year, its incumbent on us as Christians to keep society grounded in the real reasons for the season.

Giving and receiving gifts can be a true expression of one's love for someone. There's nothing wrong with Black Friday shopping at 2 am if that's your thing, but try to reflect on the fact that our faith is the true meaning of why this season exists. It's easy to lose sight of the most important part while stressing about what to give to whom, etc.

Take a few moments to pray at home, stop by the church, help out at a shelter, provide necessities to those in need. All of these are ways in which you can keep your mental focus on the true path, the so called 'reason for the season'. I know families that volunteer at a food kitchen during the holidays. Consider starting a similar tradition in your family and instill in your kids the value of helping those in need.

(Continued on page 2)

Knight of the Month:

Knight of the month is **Nathaniel Cunningham** for his work for our council. Thank you for all you do!

Knight Co-Family of the Month:

Family of the month is the **Matt and Theresa Schafers** family for coordinating all the Grand Knight work. Thank you for all you help!

Upcoming Events:

December 7th: Candy Cane Sunday
December 8th: Immaculate Conception
December 17th: 833 Council Meeting 7:30
December 24th: Christmas Eve
December 25th: **CHRISTMAS DAY!**
December 29th: Officer's Meeting 7:30
December 31st: **Nebraska vs Utah**
(Las Vegas Bowl)



OFFICERS:

Chaplain:
Father Kipper
Grand Knight:
Matt Schafers
Dep. Grand Knight:
Kevin Cowles
Financial Secretary:
Tony Schafers
Treasurer:
Philip Paitz
Recorder:
Barry Butler
Chancellor:
Nathaniel Cunningham

Warden:

Ron Wortman
Advocate:
John Lenich
Lecturer:
Mike Szatko
Inside Guard:
Cliff Henggeler
Outside Guard:
Reese Meyer
Trustees:
Ron Schinkel
James McCarville
Randy Polak

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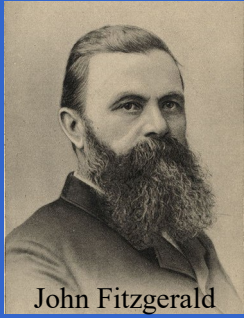
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OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

“We are a Catholic fraternal order, whose principles are based on the vision of Father Michael J. McGivney, to extend to each and every eligible man our faith and opportunity to become a member of this great organization and to utilize his God given talents for the betterment of Church, Family, Youth, Community, and Council.”

Knights of Columbus Hall : 6044 South Street : Lincoln, NE 68506 : 402-488-1415



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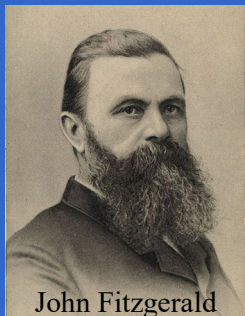
A Message from our Grand Knight:

(Continued from Page 1)

Theresa and I want to wish all of you and your families a Joyous, Blessed, and Faith filled Christmas this year. We pray that 2026 will bring you and yours many more blessings. God Bless you all. Thank you for all you do as Brother Knights for Council #833 and in support of St. Teresa Church and the many organizations that we support.

Matt Schafers
Grand Knight 833





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A Message from our Chaplain:

Dear Brother Knights,

What a blessing we have in the upcoming Solemnity of Christmas. God is indeed among us!

The truth of Christmas can be understood by a small child and it can move the hardest heart. The prophets foretold it, but it's also unimaginable.

God, whom the universe cannot contain, chose to live among us. Wow. He chose to be like all of us in all things but sin.

This is such a tender, loving time of year. I pray that you and your families have a blessed and grace-filled season of Christmas. And may the reality of God entering the world touch your hearts and move you to take on the high and noble calling of sharing it with others. Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Kipper

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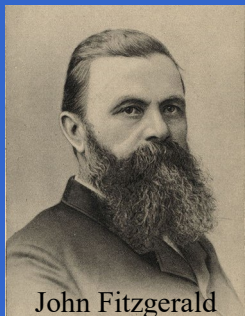
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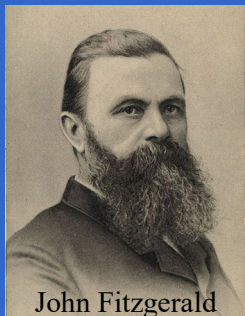
St. Teresa's - Nativity Set-Up 2025

Brother Knights,

Thank you to the Knight Crew that helped with the nativity setups. It consisted of ten Knights, three kids and one lovely wife, so it went very well. Fitzgerald Council bought a new nativity scene for the stable in the church courtyard and we put the old set up at the hall missing a few broken pieces and no stable. One knight decided to raise the angel by setting her up on some stones and it looks awesome. Thank you to all who participated in the set up and for shoveling the sidewalks in the courtyard so that people could come and adore our savior.

Tony Schafers
Financial Secretary
Fitzgerald Council





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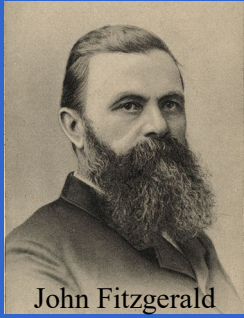
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Father Liam O'Shea-Creal

A special connection to our parish, Father Liam O'Shea-Creal, a priest from the Diocese of Lincoln, graduated from St. Teresa's school and was a member of our parish. He graduated from Pius X high School.

There was a wonderful article in Southern Nebraska Register a few weeks ago, detailing his life serving as a Naval chaplain aboard the U.S.S. Gerald R. Ford aircraft carrier and sharing his experiences through a podcast titled “Godspeed: The Journal of a Naval Chaplain.” The podcast, co-produced with his brother Killian O'Shea-Creal, offers an audio journal of Father O'Shea-Creal's life in the Navy and insight into military chaplaincy.





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COMING SOON!!

Our Knights of Columbus Free Throw contest will be in January. We will need volunteers to help with this fun event. Look for sign-ups in the next few weeks.

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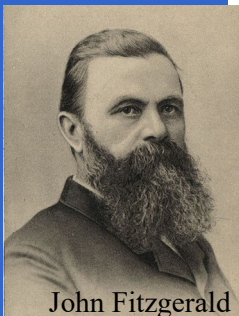
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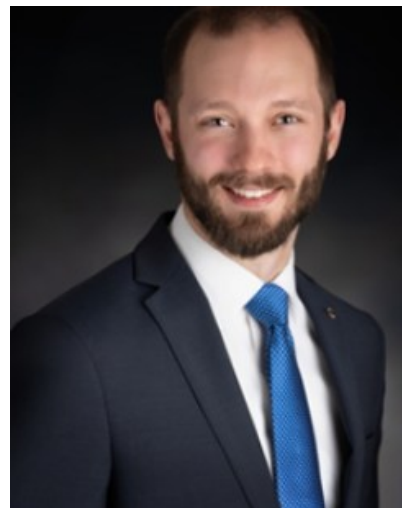


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Insurance Questions? Contact our Knights of Columbus Field Agent:

Ian Ollis
Lincoln, NE
402-413-0110
ian.ollis@kofc.org



PERRY L. DEMMA

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
207 SOUTH 9TH STREET
LINCOLN, NE 68508

402-475-4060
OFFICE

402-475-1800
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Bob Benes
President

1633 Normandy Court, Suite B
Lincoln, NE 68512
bob@aspenbuildersinc.com

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1500 Center Park Rd. • Lincoln, Nebraska 68512
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E-mail: sjaros@tracysbodyshop.com