



Newsletter

St. Mary's Men's Club

Volume V, Issue 1 Winter 2005

Men's Club Prayer

"Father,

May everything we do begin with Your inspiration and continue with Your saving help.

Let our work always find its origin in You and through You reach completion.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son,

Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen."

Authored by John Ricchiuto

Membership by Ray Dalessandro

The best \$10 you will ever spend!

The St. Mary's Mens Club just ended another successful year, and that success can be measured in so many ways. We finished the year with 171 active members, with more than 20 new members just in the last year; and we are looking for more successes:

Success: a growing list of successful Service projects, providing energy, leadership, pasta, and much needed funds for our community

Success: a deepening commitment to the Spiritual needs of all the men in our parish

Success: fantastic meals and camaraderie at our 9 monthly member meetings! And a Social calendar from Golf to cards to campouts.

That's it in a nutshell: A Service, Spiritual, and Social buffet of activities that you can choose from, to suit any diet you bring to the club.

Our next meeting is Sunday, February 20th at 7pm. Just walk in and introduce your self! If you miss that meeting, our schedule is posted on the St. Mary's Website (<http://www.stmaryHUDSON.cc>).

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Calendar

Eucharistic Adoration
7:00 P.M. every Thursday

**Men's Club Mass/
Membershi Drive**
Sunday, January 30, 2005

Seafood Dinners
Friday Nights, February 4
thru March 18, 2005

**Men's Club
Day of Reflection**
Saturday, February 5, 2005

Board Meeting
February 20, 2005
5:30 P.M.

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Lenten Seafood Dinners

St. Mary's Men's Club will once again be hosting its annual Lenten Seafood Dinners. The dinners will begin on Friday, February 4th with a Fat Friday Celebration and run for seven consecutive Fridays ending on March 18th. The Men's Club needs at least 65 guys per week to work this event. No experience is necessary. It's a great way to get involved in the Men's Club.

All help would be appreciated. Please contact Joe Palmeri at

330-342-7159 or by email at jmpalmeri@adelphia.net to volunteer and learn more.



The Men's Club of St. Mary's is an organization open to all men of St. Mary's parish. The Club sponsors such events as Hudson High School's Career Awareness Night, the parish's annual picnic, Christmas poinsettias for shut-ins program, the Men's Club Scholarship, father-child canoe outings, the Men's Club Golf League, spiritual retreats and other events.

St. Mary's Men's Club Day of Reflection Announcement

All members of the St. Mary's Men's Club are invited to attend a spiritual "Day of Reflection" on Saturday, February 5th, 2005 at the Emmaus Conference Center.

The Conference Center is located in Bedford, Ohio and is operated by the Vincentian Sisters of Charity. Transportation will be provided from the parish parking lot. We will meet at the parish @ 8:00 a.m. and will return no later than 4:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. This is a "no cost" activity sponsored and paid for by the STMMC.

Fr. Ed has graciously offered to be our spiritual guide and will join us for at least part the day.

Not only do we have a meeting room for the day but we will also have access to the grounds for outward meditation

What a great way to "get in to" the season of lent. This is also an opportunity for club members to get to know one another over and above our seafood dinner time together.

For a unique retreat experience please R.S.V.P. to Bob Kastner @ kastner811@adelphia.net or John Ricchiuto @ ric@gwis.com.

St. Mary's Men's Club Mass Announcement

All members are asked to participate at the Men's Club Membership Mass scheduled for Sunday, January 30th at 11:30 a.m.

Eucharistic Ministers, Hospitality Ministers, Lectors, Servers as well as our Men's Club Choir will be "manned" by St. Mary's Men's Club members.

Those interested in being part of the Men's Club Choir please contact Carl Walko at cwalko@adelphia.net or Bruce Mlakar @ Bruce.Mlakar@hds.com. Choir practices will be held Wednesday evening, 1/26/05, and Saturday morning, 1/29/05.

To participate as a EM, HM, lector and server contact Bob Kastner @ kastner811@adelphia.net.

A great turn out would be a fantastic way to begin the 2005 calendar of club events. Wear a white shirt and tie and gather in the Church narthex before Mass.

Holy Hour

by John Ricchiuto

The greatest gift the Men's Club has given the parish these past four years and continues to do so is exposition of the Eucharist. Each Thursday from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. a Holy Hour is conducted by Deacon Fred Brown. In addition, on the fourth Thursday during the Holy Hour a healing service is presented.

In a recent encyclical letter on the Eucharist, Pope John Paul II has quoted Saint Liguori, who wrote "Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us." Pope John Paul continues and says "The Eucharist is a priceless treasure: by not only celebrating it but also praying before it outside of Mass we are enabled to make contact with very wellspring of grace" He also has declared a year of the Eucharist from October 2004 to October 2005.

The Men's Club is in place to support the year of the Eucharist. As Jesus said, to His disciples, "come and see" each Thursday evening.

Newletter info:

Would you like to write an article for the St. Mary's Mens Club Newsletter? Please send your "Word Document", or pictures of a Parish event, to Brian Mullins at bmullins@kadeeindustries.com. The deadline for our next issue, the Spring issue, is March 20, 2005.

Canoe/Camping Trip

by Tony Gallo

The annual Father/Child Canoe and Camp Trip, sponsored by the St. Mary's Men's Club, was held June 12-13. Unfortunately, the canoeing portion of the event was cancelled because the Mohican River was too high. They had 4 inches of rain in Loudonville during the previous week. We had a little shower while setting up tents. After this rough start, the

weekend was fun. Everyone made the best of the weekend and had a good time. There were some kids swimming in the pool in canoeing attire ... showing that positive Hudson attitude and flexibility.

Thanks to Andy Summerscales and his cooking/clean-up crews for making Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast.

St. Mary's Relay for Life Team

by Tony Gallo

By all measures, St. Mary's participation in this year's Hudson Stow Relay for Life event was another huge success!

The Men's Club sponsored and ran a food stand at the 2004 event to help raise on-site money. We earned over \$900 from the food stand. We sold out of 400 hot dogs and 280 hamburgers. A special thanks to Nick Lemmo for donating the hot dogs. Also, Tops supermarket in Streetsboro donated all of the buns. Thanks to all the men who worked the food stand, and made it such a huge success!

On a larger scale, the St. Mary's Team had a goal to raise \$15,000. We surpassed this with a current tally over \$17,000. Our team reached the Platinum level, \$10,000 to \$19,999, for another year. Our team t-shirt won an award for the "Best Team T-shirt/Costume - Community Organizations".

We especially would like to recognize our top individual fund raiser. Paul Samide, a Men's Club member, raised over \$2,100 to find a cure for cancer. You may also know that his wife, Sue, was the Relay for Life Survivor Ambassador. Thanks for your family love leadership!

Another special recognition goes to the VerVaet family ... Keith and Brandon walked for a continuous 24 hours! Ohhh myyyy...

Thanks so much to all of the walkers/volunteers/helpers. It was an awesome weekend for our parish team. The weather was great and even the dark clouds Saturday afternoon held off.

This year, the team is planning fund raising activities for the American Cancer Society RFL walk. We

have several things under way and can use your help. Even if you cannot walk there are opportunities to help.

Please mark your calendars for a team meeting on February 10 at 7pm and a Saturday evening dance on April 16, 2005. Please send an email to tonygallo@adelphia.net to be included in our mailing list and stay up to date on activities between now and June 3/4, 2005. If you put "RFL St. Mary's" in the subject line, then I will be sure to see it.

This is the major fund raiser for the American Cancer Society. You may want to take a few moments to look at the web site and see some of the progress that has been made against cancer. See the ACS news center at www.cancer.org

We plan to publish a St. Mary's church cookbook. But we need our church family's favorite recipes! We need any category of recipe. How about those BBQ grill techniques or other special recipes? Deadline for recipes is JANUARY 17th. An email is preferred. Send recipes to Mary Gallo at marygallo@adelphia.net. Or drop them at the church office during business hours - look for a basket for **Cookbook Recipes**. The publication will be sold after mass on March 5/6

Honey Baked Ham Sale

The Men's Club sponsored a Ham Sale during the Christmas season. Thanks again to the members who participated in this event. Due to your efforts, the proceeds from the ham sale went directly to the Men's Club operating fund.

Website Status

by Rick Jaekle

Have you visited the St. Mary's website lately? It's just a click away at <http://www.stmaryhudson.cc>.

The website continues to be enhanced in all areas, especially for the Men's Club.

We now have three areas: public, general membership, and board member areas. Now reference information, such as rosters, work schedules for volunteer events, and even Fish Fry menu's, can be easily downloaded.

For any functions coming up, we can add a form to the site to allow people to sign up for an event right on the web. Just email me with the information at rgj@jaeklegroup.com and it can be set up fairly quickly.

We are working with the finance council to implement e-commerce. This will allow the club to accept credit cards online for any of the fundraising events we do. This includes ham sales, fish fry, communion breakfasts etc. I met with them two weeks ago and am waiting for their decision. This could be a nice boost to our fund raising events.

Career Awareness Night

The Men's Club was again co-sponsor of the annual Career Awareness Night at Hudson High School on November 9, 2004. This was the twenty-fourth year the club has been a sponsor of this event which was initiated by the Men's Club. Joe Abood and Joe Sabol chaired the event for the Men's Club. Many members participated in the event. The club's co-sponsors were the Hudson Rotary and Hudson Guidance Dept.

Dinner/Meetings

by Rick Jaekle

Did you know that we begin each Men's Club Meeting with dinner?

We have been trying to push the envelope on the type of dinners being served for meetings. This past year we featured London broil with twice baked potatoes, Salad, and chocolate cheese cake for dessert. At our last meeting we featured Honey mustard chicken, mashed potatoes, and a broccoli medley with fresh baked dinner rolls. We ended the meal with a chocolate torte. We are hoping to provide better meals than home, so you have no excuse not to come to the meeting. Special thanks to Jeff Johnson, Brian O'Connor, Harry Babcock, Brian Mullins, and Greg for helping out this past year.

Membership

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All for just \$10 (that's right, \$1.11 per meal)! Our dues year begins in January, so remember to bring your \$10 to the meeting, both new members and current members. Any questions, contact me (ray.dalessandro@rrd.com) or Brian Mullins (bmullins@kadeeindustries.com).

Parish Picnic

The annual Parish Picnic was held in early September. The Men's Club again handled the ticket sales and the food sales. The weather was perfect and attendance was very good. Thanks to all of the members who help make the event successful.

Calendar

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General Meeting
February 20, 2005 7:00 P.M.
(3rd Sunday)

Board Meeting
March 13, 2005
5:30 P.M.

General Meeting
Golf Sign-up Night
March 13, 2005 7:00 P.M.
(3rd Sunday)

Relay for Life Dance
Saturday, April 16, 2005

General Meeting
April 17, 2005 7:00 P.M.
(3rd Sunday)

Membership Application Form

 Mail to: Ray Dalessandro, 6760 Pheasant Ridge, Hudson, OH 44236

Name: _____

Address: _____

Sposuse's First Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Occupation: _____ Business Phone: _____

Interests: _____

Skills: (painting, plumbing, electrical, etc.) _____

I am interested in the following Club Activities: (rank 1, 2, 3) _____ Spiritual _____ Service _____ Social

Dues are \$10.00 for the calendar year, payable with this form. Date: _____