

SERVANT OF THE WEEK— BERNARD THOMPSON



This week we feature Bernard Thompson, also known as. “Bernie” to many friends. This year, he and wife Ruth celebrate 49 years of marriage, with great pride in their four children and 4 grandchildren. The family moved to Tallmadge and Our Lady of Victory 36 years ago. Bernie was a machinist, and owned T-Mac Machine in Kent. With the business concerns, he didn’t have much time for anything else, but at least 20 years ago he wanted to get involved in something at OLV. He chose to become a member of our local Knights of Columbus. He said, “God has given me and my family a lot. And I thought I should give something back. I like to help people and get things done.” When he joined K of C, he didn’t know many of the knights well, but he has made some good friends through the years. About eight years ago, Bernie retired from his work as

machinist, and then got even more involved in the parish. For four years he served as Grand Knight. During that time he led our council to participate in a national Marian Devotion program. Bernie helped plan our service, and was proud of the great turnout and participation. As he was leaving his office of Grand Knight, he shared in the plans of the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the Council. Through the years he’s recruited several OLV men to join the K of C, telling them, “this is a good group of guys, and it is a good way to help the Church and the community.” After retirement, Bernie also made himself available for other parish needs such as gathering a group to weed the flower beds before the Bishop came to OLV, helping to prepare the Christmas trees for our sanctuary, and, for the last few years, he has set aside many Monday mornings to serve as a Collection Counter. Overall, Bernie said, “It was a pleasure working with the various people of the parish when I was Grand Knight. I think a lot of Fr. John, and it gives me satisfaction to be able to do something in the parish.”