



*From the  
Chaplain*

**MARCH 29  
FOUNDER'S DAY**

Later this month Knights all across America will celebrate Founder's Day, March 29, the day set aside each year to honor and remember the life and ministry of Fr. Michael J. McGivney (1852-1890), the Founder of the Knights of Columbus.

Fr. McGivney is under consideration for sainthood. On March 15, 2008, Pope Benedict XVI declared him "Venerable," an official pronouncement that recognizes his exceptional faith and virtue, as well as his distinguished ministry. The declaration is a formal step forward in the canonization process.

Fr. McGivney was born in Waterbury, Connecticut, on August 12, 1852, the son of Patrick and Mary McGivney, both Irish immigrants to America, a devout Catholic couple. Michael was the first of thirteen children, and they together were a solid Catholic family. Michael felt called to the priesthood as a very young person, went directly to the seminary, and was ordained in Baltimore on December 22, 1877, at the age of 25.

Fr. McGivney's first assignment was as the associate pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in New Haven, Connecticut, for six years from January, 1878, until 1884; and his second and last assignment was as pastor of St. Thomas Catholic Church in Thomaston, Connecticut, another six years from 1884 until his tragic early death on August 14, 1890, at the age of 38 as the result of a fatal bout with pneumonia.

Fr. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 while serving at St. Mary's. It was his firm desire to help the Catholic men in his parish grow in



faith and holiness. Moreover, in the days before modern medicine, many husbands and fathers passed away leaving wives and children behind with little or no monetary resources, so he worked to establish financial assistance programs for their survivors should they die.

As an "ordinary" parish priest, he distinguished himself in his concern for the spiritual and temporal welfare of Catholic families, and he gave extraordinary service. His tiny organization which began with a handful of members has grown to over 1.7 million members. He planted a seed, God gave it growth, and it has born rich fruit. Fr. Mike Van Sloun

**Lenten Stations of the Cross**

The Anoka Council of the Knights of Columbus will host the Lenten Stations on Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. The stations will be at St. Stephen's Church at 7:00 PM. Members and their families are encouraged to attend this Lenten prayer service.

Ken Erkens  
chairman



*Prayer  
List*

Please pray for all those on our prayer list:

Leo Kimmel (son of former brother knight Richard Kimmel); Brian Hoffman; Ruth Lovsted; Jim Lovsted; Merle Mevissen; Terry Phillips; Ray Pipenhagen; Tom O'connell; Patrick O'Gorman; John Patchen; Al Schrupp; Blake Wahlberg; Beth Zelenak (daughter-in-law of Bob); Earl Dehn; Ralph Smithers; Richard Schanhaar; Michael Lehn; Patty Matlon; PGK Ken Schumacher.

If you wish to add a name to the list, please contact Shield Editor Mike Petschl at 763-421-7926 or mbpetschl@msn.com..



*Grand  
Knight's  
Message*

Greetings Brother Knights,

This month of March is bringing us more hours of daylight and the first day of spring. Please use this season of lent and approaching spring with its signs of new life to consider renewing your commitment to your local Knights of Columbus council. Please come to a meeting or respond positively to a request for your time by volunteering for an upcoming event. Do you have an idea for something new, or a suggestion for enhancing a current activity? Please speak with me or any one of the other officers at one of our upcoming meetings.

Speaking of those upcoming events, we have quite a few coming up – Fr. Mike's Fish Fries throughout lent and our very own at the KC Hall. If a fun night of B.I.N.G.O. is more your style, our Ham Bingo is coming up on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendars.

We've gotten 2009 off to a good start with an excellent turnout for the Mid-Winter Breakfast. Delicious as always! Thank you to all who chaired this event, helped prepare, serve and clean up and everyone who attended. Our first Major Degree of the year on February 15<sup>th</sup> was well attended and 24 candidates are now counted as new Brother Knights.

Please join me in recognition of the February Knights of the Month – many thanks to Mike Petschl and Brian Bakk. They are being recognized for their dedicated service and reliability in making sure that our Brother Knight Brian Hoffman always has a ride to church and all Knights activities. Your fellow Knights and I thank you for your service.

Jim Masteller  
Grand Knight

## History 2018 St. Patrick

While pondering what to write about this month, I searched the archives of my mind (no small task there) for events that take place in March. I came up with two: Lent and St. Patrick's Day. I think we are all quite familiar with both, so I would like to give you some insight into the actual life of St. Patrick. Once again, my source will be 'The Catholic Pages of American History'.

There are disagreements about some dates and events in his life, such as the years of his birth and death and where he was actually born. This account evaluates several opinions, as well as some writings left by St. Patrick and historical time lines to reach conclusions. So if you think I'm full of baloney, just remember, I'm trying to give you some knowledgeable research from 1903.

It appears most likely that he was born in Boulogne-sur-Mer, in France, in 387. (That's a long way back, which makes research a bit difficult to begin with.) His father, Calpurnius, was a deacon and his grandfather, Potitus, was a priest. The explanation for that is that his wife either died or there was a mutually agreed upon separation. His mother, Conchessa, was a near relative of St. Martin of Tours.

At the age of 16 young Patrick was taken captive along with some of his countrymen and taken to Ireland where he was kept in servitude for six years. He was told in a dream to return to his homeland and made his escape. Shortly after returning to his home, he went to the monastery of St. Martin of Tours and studied for four years where he learned to submit in all things to the will of God.

When he returned to his home, he was taken captive again for a period of two months, but we don't know who his captors were or where he was held. Upon his return from that captivity, his parents begged him to remain with them, but in another dream he was presented with a letter from the people of Ireland asking him to walk among them again. This he did, working hard to establish Christianity in a pagan land, often at great risk to his life. He would enter an area and attempt to convert the king first, because most of the people would follow.

One account states that this dedicated servant of God erected 700 churches and ordained 700 bishops and 3,000 priests. Many miracles were attributed to him throughout his life. He was, obviously, a very energetic and determined individual.

The undisputed date of his death is March 17<sup>th</sup> and the debatable year is set at 465.

Now then, after all that indecisiveness, here's a statement you can take to the bank, "I'm outta' here, 'cuz my time is up!" See ya' next month.

Mike Petschl  
historian

## COUNCIL 2018 CHARITY FISH FRY

Even though St. Stephen's Parish is hosting fish fries coordinated by the Knights of Columbus during Lent we will continue our Council 2018 Fish Fry for charity as we have in the past. This is the one held at the KC Hall. Members and friends are invited to enjoy deep fried and baked fish with the proceeds this year going to a charity to be determined by the council. This year's fish fry will be held on April 3, a week before Good Friday as always, at the KC Hall. In the meantime, please support the fish fries at St. Stephen's Church.

The menu, in addition to the fish, consists of baked potato, garden salad, mixed vegetables, buns, coffee, and goodies to satisfy your sweet tooth. All of this for a donation of \$6.00 a person. Pop and beer will be available and you can B.Y.O.B. Socializing starts at 6:30 PM and serving starts at 7:00 and goes until everyone has had enough to eat. Stay and enjoy socializing and games in the clubroom after dinner. Make sure you sign in at the table by the door when you arrive.

**RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY** so that we have some idea as to how many people to prepare for. Please make your reservation NOW. Come and enjoy some "mighty fine" food at a reasonable price and have a great time with fellow knights and their friends. Co-Chairs:

Al Kempf 763-421-0116  
Ken Schumacher

## Council 2018 Officers and Directors 2008-2009

<b>Grand Knight</b>	Jim Masteller.....763-427-8078
<b>Deputy Grand Knight</b>	open
<b>Chaplain</b>	Fr. Michael Van Sloun.....763-421-2471
<b>Chancellor</b>	John Kinnick.....763-576-1848
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Roger Renner.....763-753-3576 work.....763-427-6100
<b>Recorder</b>	Gary Kempf.....763-785-2206
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jim Lovsted.....763-424-5782
<b>Warden</b>	Brian Hoffman.....763-427-2232
<b>Advocate</b>	Phil Harter.....763-208-1483
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<b>Outside Guard</b>	Steve Haeska.....763-767-3929
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<b>2 Year Trustee</b>	Pat Riehl.....763-767-6062
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<b>Lecturer</b>	Bob Belousek.....763-422-9597
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<b>Program Director</b>	Ray Danzl.....763-754-6303
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<b>Community Activity Director</b>	Gene Gustafson.....763-753-1174
<b>Council Activity Director</b>	Phil Lesnar.....763-856-3497
<b>Youth Activity Director</b>	Roger Meissner.....763-425-0655
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<b>Prolife Director</b>	Pat Larson.....763-754-6768
<b>Bingo Chairman</b>	Ron Ward.....763-421-5086
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<b>Insurance Agent</b>	Don Kramer.....763-566-0401 e-mail.....donald.kramer@kofc.org website.....www.donkramer.com



# The SHIELD



Planning Meeting every 1st Tuesday

Council Meeting every 2nd Tuesday

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 3 Planning Meeting; 7:30PM  
KC Hall
- March 6 Lenten Stations; 7:00PM  
Church of St. Stephen
- March 10 Business Meeting; 7:30PM  
KC Hall
- March 6, 13, 20, 27 Fr. Mike's Fish Fries  
St. Stephen's FCC
- March 17 St. Patrick's Day

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**16950 Tulip St. N.W.**  
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## HAM BINGO

Our annual Ham Bingo is just around the corner. The date this year is Saturday, April 4, 2009, from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m. This year's event will be held in the Faith Community Center. I need lots of help so please give me a call if you can work. There will be two shifts. The first shift is from 6:15 to 8:15 and the second shift is from 8:15 to 10:15. If by chance you cannot work a shift, I would encourage you to attend this event with your family. Attendance has been trending down the last few years and I really want to build this back up because this is an important fundraiser for our council. Please tell your family, friends and co-workers, or better yet bring them along as well. You will have a great time whether you are working or playing Bingo.

Vern Rausch, chairman  
H: 763-422-1128  
vrrjrr@hotmail.com

## DUES NOTICE REMINDER

Dear Brother Knights,

Fiscal year 2009 dues notices were mailed on December 17, 2008. The second mailing will be sent out on March 1, 2009.

If you have misplaced your dues notice, please call me and I will send out another notice with a return envelope. If you are not sure if you paid your dues, please call me for your ledger status.

Contact: (763) 427-6100, (763) 286-9355  
cell#, or e-mail at [rerenner@ehrenner.com](mailto:rerenner@ehrenner.com).

**FRATERNALLY YOURS,**  
**ROGER E. RENNER, F.S.**

## MN KNIGHTS FOUNDATION

Last month all Brother Knights were sent tickets for the Minnesota Knights Foundation. We have had an overwhelming response supporting the ticket sales. Many of our Knights have requested additional tickets which are now available. If you wish to purchase more tickets, please call me at (763) 427-6100. I will see to it that you get them. **FRATERNALLY,**

**ROGER E. RENNER, F.S.**

## Knight's Busing Program

The Knight's busing program was called upon to drive the senior bus to transfer a busload of youth from the Church of St. Stephen to Blaine. The outing went to the Brunswick XL Bowling near 113<sup>th</sup> and Hwy 65. The program was headed by the youth minister, Becky Phillips. A good time was had by all. Knights wishing more information about the youth group can contact the Church of St. Stephen's youth minister, Becky Phillips, at 763-712-7480.

Raymond T. Renner, driver

## Wanted

### Senior's Bus Drivers

The Knights are looking for a few candidates to be so honored as to drive for our Seniors in 2009. We are in need of one driver for the 5:00PM Mass on Saturdays and two drivers for the 9:30AM Mass on Sundays. The reward for driving is so great that most of our drivers have been driving for the past TEN years. If you can assist us with this need or would like more information, please call 763-286-8806 and leave a message if I am not available. Thanks!!!!

28<sup>th</sup> year Driver/Director  
Raymond T. Renner