



*From the
Chaplain*

KNIGHTS ADAMANTLY PRO-LIFE

Every year during the month of January Knights of Columbus across the United States make a major effort to proclaim and uphold one of its most cherished spiritual, moral, and ethical standards, the Gospel of Life. This value, which is a constant for Knights throughout the year, is intensified every January because of the anniversary of the U. S. Supreme Court's ruling in the *Roe v. Wade* case on January 22, 1973, that legalized abortion.

It is the government's duty to protect its citizens from harm and uphold the common good. Americans are supposed to have the right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." The right to life is basic, and it is to be protected from conception until natural death. When the government fails to protect the most vulnerable members of society, it is a failure of epic proportions and an outrage. In their seriously flawed *Roe v. Wade* ruling, the Supreme Court detoured from the foundational principles that have made our nation great.

In addition to violating the principles of good government, abortion also blatantly offends against the Fifth Commandment, "You shall not kill" (Ex 20:13; Dt 5:17). As Christians, we do not impose our beliefs on others, but we use our beliefs to help guide and influence our society to be more just, true, righteous, and honorable.

Later this month, on Friday, January 22, 2010, the Knights of Columbus will hold its 37th Annual March for Life in Washington, DC, and more than one hundred thousand are expected



*Grand
Knight's
Message*



Greetings Brother Knights,

I wish a very "Happy New Year" to all brother Knights and your families. I hope that everyone had a good Christmas season and is ready for 2010 with renewed energy and conviction. Resolutions are often a part of our New Year's rituals. Please keep your local Knights of Columbus in mind as you make your new commitments for 2010. We have openings in our council officer positions and are also reaching out to find new chairs and leaders for numerous areas. Please consider the value that your talents could lend to our council. Do not underestimate your value and worth. Everyone has talents and skill that can help to strengthen our group.

A couple of events helped to end 2009 on a positive note for us. The Thanksgiving Turkey Bingo was a success. I give many thanks to the chairs and those who volunteered and participated. Our annual Tom and Jerry night was well attended and I believe enjoyed by those who were present. I was unable to attend the Spaghetti Dinner, but have been advised that a delicious meal, good entertainment and fellowship were enjoyed by all in attendance. Thanks for everyone's hard work for this council activity.

The Mid-winter Breakfast is coming up this month. If you have not yet volunteered for a shift, please consider doing this as an event in which your entire family can participate.

**Jim Masteller
Grand Knight**

to attend again this year on the walk from the National Mall to the Supreme Court Building. Those unable to go to Washington are urged to do something in their own area, possibly a demonstration at their state capital; a vigil for unborn children at a local government monument; or a prayer service at their parish or KC hall.

All Knights and their family members are asked to pray for an end to abortion. The national office is recommending the rosary, especially on Jan. 22. The Mass is our best prayer. An hour of Eucharistic Adoration is another excellent option. It is also possible to offer up a good work or act of penance. As Knights, it is our solemn duty to defend life and work to strengthen the moral fabric of our society.

Fr. Mike Van Sloun



Prayer List

Please pray for all those on our prayer list:

Leo Kimmel (son of former brother knight Richard Kimmel); Ruth Lovsted; Jim Lovsted; Merle Mevissen; Ray Pipenhagen; Tom O'connell; Patrick O'Gorman; John Patchen; Blake Wahlberg; Beth Zele-nak (daughter-in-law of Bob); Earl Dehn; Ralph Smithers; Richard Schanhaar; Michael Lehn; Patty Matlon; Duane Bouley; Jeff Kieffer. John Gobernatz.

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

History 2018 Bridges

Why am I writing about bridges you say? Well, first of all, I don't want to bore you with KC stuff ALL the time and I really do want to broaden your horizons. Besides, bridges have been in the news quite a bit these last few years.

It seems like the more modern bridges have been the ones that have become dangerous. The old suspension bridges continue to amaze me. The Brooklyn Bridge turned 100 way back in 1983, which makes it 126 years old this year.

The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco recently had a huge cable fall onto the bridge deck. It happened outside of the rush hour and, fortunately, no one was killed. The suspension portion of this man made wonder is 1.7 miles long and was the longest in the world when it was built. The ground breaking took place on February 26, 1933, the same year the Brooklyn Bridge turned 50. It opened for pedestrian traffic on May 27, 1937, and for vehicles on May 28, 1937. One unique feature of this bridge is that the center lane is used as a third lane for the morning commute into the city and switched over for use as a third lane out of the city on the afternoon and evening commute. This is accomplished by the use of a simple system using yellow markers.

The Mackinac Bridge was dedicated on June 28, 1958, becoming the longest suspension bridge at 8,614 feet, 2000 feet longer than the Golden Gate. The entire bridge spans 26,444 feet. Barb and I crossed it in the fall of '07 when plans for the 50th celebration were well in the making.

Other memorable bridges include the London Bridge that was transported to Lake Havasu City, Arizona, by an oil millionaire to attract tourists and their money.

Have any of you crossed the Astoria Bridge in Washington and looked out to see that you were driving at the same altitude as the sea gulls were flying? For those afraid of heights, don't look down!

Speaking of that, there is a bridge in New Orleans, Louisiana, that is by far our most unfavorable. It is a huge steel bridge complex that appears to have been constructed from a giant Erector Set. (How many of you remember those from your childhood?) It is steep and has metal grids for the traffic lanes, which are very narrow. If that doesn't make you tense enough with an 18 wheeler next to you, just look up and you will see the train tracks rising above you. I was never so glad to get off a bridge in my life! If we had been going back that way I would have found a different route.

And with that I will route myself outta' here, 'cuz my time is up! See ya' next month.
Mike Petschl, historian

Turkey Bingo Wrapup

Our Turkey Bingo was successful this year. We had a good turnout considering the economy. Everybody had a great time. I want to say, Thank you, to all the volunteers that helped with the Turkey Bingo, because without all of you this event would not happen. A big thank you goes to the Boy Scouts for handling the concessions and handing out the turkeys.

We made approximately \$1,288.00 from the Turkey Bingo.

Three names were drawn for the 20# turkeys at the end of the night and the winners were Mary Murrel, Delores Pinor & Cindy Good.

THANKS EVERYBODY!

Vern Rausch
Bingo Chairman

Round Table Corner

Many people have been asking me, "What is happening with the building of the church at St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Community?" The answer to that question is, "It has been put on hold for at least one year."

The parish within about one month of ground-breaking when the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis put a hold on all new construction and new additions to all parishes. Unfortunately, that means we will have to wait a little longer before any ground breaking. But, the parish pastoral council made the recommendation to move our parish under one roof. As of now, we hope to expand our current parish center into the next suite on the other side of a wall. We need to receive the appropriate city approval before we can begin this venture. It will also necessitate some minor construction.

Fr. Paul asked me if we could get some help from brother knights from the Anoka council to help with expanding our current parish center. We are in need of people who enjoy destruction, construction, electrical expertise, and those who just simply enjoy helping out. Exactly when this may happen is not known yet. It is our hope to be under the one roof by Easter. If you would like to help out in this expansion let me know. I can be reached by phone at 763-422-1152, or by email at jnlsmetana@q.com.

To find out more about what is happening with the building of our new parish, go to www.stkdcc.org and click on Building Committee located on the left side.

John Smetana
Round Table Coordinator

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Antique Coca-Cola Cooler Chances!

The Westinghouse WD-10 Point of Sale Coca-Cola Cooler that has been in use in the hall is being used as a hall fund-raiser. We will be taking \$5 donations to win the cooler until the April 13th general meeting. There are only 100 tickets for this fund-raiser. The cooler is in working condition and would be great for a family room or garage. Current value of the cooler is around \$300 on most price sources. Donations will be taken during all KC meetings until April 13th. If you can't make a meeting, please contact the Hall Manager to make a donation. The hall manager can be contacted at 612-532-2499.



The SHIELD



Planning Meeting every 1st Tuesday

Council Meeting every 2nd Tuesday

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 2018

No. 1 January 2010

www.anokakc.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 1 Mary Mother of God
Holyday of Obligation
New Years Day
- Jan. 5 Planning Meeting, 7:30PM
KC Hall
- Jan. 12 Business Meeting, 7:30PM
KC Hall
- Jan. 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Jan. 24 Mid-winter Breakfast
After all Morning Masses

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Spaghetti Dinner/Dance Wrap-Up

A quick synopsis of this year's very successful Spaghetti Dinner/Dance.

Approximately 100 people attended. The food was great and the music was fantastic. The dance floor was filled throughout the evening. A lot of conversation and laughter! We operated at a profit of \$293.51 for our council. We received donations for the ACBC food shelf in Anoka in the amount of \$936.00. Tips at the bar totaled \$41.00 and were given to the food shelf as well. A motion was made, seconded, and passed at our last meeting for our council to add the amount of \$23.00 to this total so we could write a check to ACBC in the amount of \$1,000 for them this Christmas.

Thanks to Kelly and Suzanne for contacting many businesses in our community that contributed gifts for prizes during the evening. Thank you, also, to all of you who attended to make this evening so successful.

The first Saturday in December was so well liked by those who were there that we have both the KC hall and the band booked for December 4th, 2010. Mark it on your calendar.

Chairs: Ray Danzl, Phil Lesnar, John Smetana

Do You Know a Membership Prospect??

A major degree membership installation is scheduled for Sunday, February 14, 2010, at the Anoka KC Hall. This would be an excellent opportunity for any prospective member to take all three degrees to reach full knighthood in the Third Degree. With that in mind I will be conducting three membership information sessions in January and early February. I will cover a basic history of the Knights, the structure of the organization from Supreme down through the local level, and the activities we conduct at all levels. It is an opportunity for all to discover what we are about. The sessions will begin at 7:30 P.M. at the KC Hall on Tuesday, January 27, Thursday, January 29, and Thursday, February 4. Only one of the three sessions is needed. If you know of a potential candidate call me or just have him show up at the meeting. Current members are also welcome to attend if you would like to know more about the organization. Call me with questions or names of potential members at 763-421-0116.

Al Kempf,
Membership Director

MID-WINTER BREAKFAST COMING IN JANUARY

The 'Mid-Winter Breakfast' will be happening after all morning Masses on Sunday, January 24th. That will happen in less than one month. The event takes place at St. Stephen's in the FCC.

We need between 60 and 70 volunteers that day, so please consider helping. So far I have approximately 20 people signed up to help. The shift times available are 8:00 to 10:00, 9:30 to 11:30, and 11:00 to 1:30. Another possibility to help is on Saturday, the 24th, during mid-day. That is when we prep the food for Sunday. We are in need of another 4 to 5 people on Saturday. Other members of your family are invited to help as well. If you would like to volunteer during any of these times, please give me, John Smetana, a call or send an email. My phone number is: 763-422-1152. E-mail to jnlsmetana@q.com. Thank you.