



*From the  
Chaplain*

## NOVEMBER, A TIME FOR THANKSGIVING

The holiday season moves into full swing later this month with our annual celebration of Thanksgiving. It is marvelous to be able to have an attitude of gratitude.

God is our provider, the giver of all good gifts, so when it comes to giving thanks, our first expression of gratitude should be directed to almighty God. St. Paul made this point when he wrote: "Be thankful" (Col 3:15); "Sing hymns with gratitude" (Col 3:16); and "Whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Col 3:17). The point is made repeatedly at every Mass when the priest says, "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God," and the congregation responds, "It is right to give God thanks and praise."

When it comes to gratitude, the first step is the ability to recognize our blessings. If there is no awareness of gifts received, there is no need to offer thanks. During the month of November as Thanksgiving draws near, set aside a few moments to spiritually prepare for the holiday. Pause to count your blessings. Consider life and health, family and friends, talents and abilities, opportunities and accomplishments, financial and material blessings. And do not forget to count your spiritual blessings: the Father and creation, Jesus and the gospel, the Holy Spirit and inspiration, faith and grace, forgiveness, redemption, and salvation. Apart from God we would have nothing. God has blessed us with everything that we have.

As we become increasingly aware of



*Grand  
Knight's  
Message*



Greetings Brother Knights,

I hope this finds all of you well and able to enjoy the glorious weather that we have had so far this month. This column goes to press before our busy last half of October is complete, but if the weather continues to cooperate, we should be able to benefit from that tremendously.

Thanks to everyone for the hard work that you put into our Haunted House and parade floats. These are both traditions in our community and tradition is especially important to us in these tough times to help keep us focused on the things that we can control and turning over to God the things that we can not.

Thank you also to everyone for the efforts and great displays that showcased the events, activities and values of the Knights of Columbus during our KC Weekend at St. Stephen's. It really makes one proud to be part of an organization with such strong values. I look forward to welcoming the new members into our Council that result from these efforts.

Aside from being a new member, if you've been a KC member for a while and haven't participated recently, this would be a great time to choose an activity and volunteer for a shift or show your support by attending. Our November Turkey B.I.N.G.O. will give you an opportunity for both of these things. We look forward to seeing you there.

Before our November general membership meeting is a special event that I encourage you all to come and participate in, if you are able. It is our annual Memorial Mass for our Brother Knights that have died in the past year. This is very personal and special. It is an opportunity to offer support to their families and thank them for the service of their loved ones.

Jim Masteller  
Grand Knight

our countless blessings, it should lead us to give God greater praise and thanks, and our gratitude is best expressed in prayer. The Greek word *eucharistos* means "thankful," and as Catholics we believe the best way to thank God is at the Eucharist, our prayerful celebration of the Mass. St. Paul also recommends hymns and the Psalms, sung at Mass or anywhere. It is also an excellent spiritual practice to thank God in our private personal prayer each and every day.

As Thanksgiving approaches, please consider making prayer a central part of your celebration of the holiday. The ideal way would be to attend Mass. Also, before sitting down at the dinner table, take a moment as a group to offer meal prayers of thanks. And sometime between rising and retiring, take a quiet private moment to offer God your own personal prayer of thanks.

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; Tom O'Connell; Patrick O'Gorman; John Patchen; Blake Wahlberg; Beth Zelenak (daughter-in-law of Bob); Ralph Smithers; Richard Schanhaar; Michael Lehn; Jeff Kieffer. John Goernatz; Robert Nichols; Leon Barnier.; Bill Ayers.

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 Inventions

We need some rest from all that transportation stuff, so we'll look at some historic inventions for awhile. Some are weird, some are life saving, some are life threatening and a lot of 'em just make life a lot more enjoyable and easier to deal with.

Let's start way back in 35,000 BC, which is when the first fish hooks were fashioned. Granted, they were primitive, having been made from bone, animal horns, shells or wood, but they certainly look like a much magnified version of today's model. Can you imagine how bad our economy would be today if these guys hadn't considered fish worth eating and devised a way to catch them? They created a mega industry!

Now we'll take a look at a couple more sporting items; snow skis and ice skates. Both date from about 3,000 BC. Skis could be made of wood or large animal bones, using leather strips as bindings. They were used for work, travel, hunting and warfare. (When there was a need for speed, as they say.) Ice skates were developed in Finland to shorten travel time in the winter by crossing the frozen lakes. They were made from animal bones with leather straps and the wearer used poles to move along. Obviously, they would not have made for a good hockey game or figure skating competition.

The next item on our agenda is gunpowder, invented around the year 800 by the Chinese. Talk about life threatening and life saving and making life more enjoyable and easier, this stuff is all over the board! The number of inventions spawned by gunpowder are unfathomable. But one of the biggest is fireworks, which entered the scene about 1150. Even though we use them for fun and amusement, they are one dangerous item.

Now, this next item is something to which I can relate. (And not because of the year it was invented, for you wise acres!) The scythe was invented around 1300 to aid in the harvesting of crops. My dad had one a couple of years ago when I was a kid. He used it more for weed control on our 3 acre plot of land, but it sure was effective.

This last item really made life easier by providing a way to cook food faster and preserve it longer. It's the pressure cooker, developed in 1679 as a new method for cooking. I can remember mom canning all sorts of things in hers. Occasionally the pressure release valve would trip and let off steam, which was a nice safety feature. We still have one, but it's so old I'd be afraid

to use it.

Talk about pressure, it's gonna' be on the editor when he tries to find room for this thing, so I better vamoose, 'cuz my time is up. See ya' next month!

Mike Petschl, historian

The following was a handout at the recent Minnesota State Birthright Conference in St. Paul, Mn. These lyrics are from a song on Utube. The repeating phrase, 'For your Choice is all I have' speaks directly to our roles as Catholic voters this year. Links to the video/song are [www.pleasekeepme.com](http://www.pleasekeepme.com) or [www.caitlinjanetunes.com](http://www.caitlinjanetunes.com)

### Caitlin Jane's Unborn

I am unborn, I cannot speak when I am afraid, you can feel a silent cry.

My eyes have not yet seen the colors of this world, but what you do to me shows me death or life.

For your choice is all I have. Your voice my only chance. Please keep me.

I am alive, my heart is beating. Innocent life, small inside I hide.

I need you all the time. Someday I'll grow up, just because of you, who cared enough to love.

For your choice is all I have. Your voice my only chance. Please keep me.

My life here is at your mercy, don't you see.

I am unborn, my entire life ahead of me. I am your baby.

The world awaits my cry and breath, I long to be held in your arms mommy.

God's depth of love for you is everlasting. In the dark, or in the light, He'll never leave.

Though I may be little, unnoticed, please don't let me stay unnoticed for too long.

God makes no mistakes. Both you and I are wonderfully, fearfully made.

For your choice is all I have. Your voice my only chance. Please keep me

Your choice is all I have. Your voice my only chance

Please keep me.

Caitlin Jane's Unborn

Vote well. Vote Life.  
Pat and Debi

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# The SHIELD



Planning Meeting every 1st Tuesday

Council Meeting every 2nd Tuesday

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Nov. 1 All Saints Day
- Nov. 2 All Souls Day
- Nov. 2 Planning Meeting, 7:30PM  
KC Hall
- Nov. 9 Memorial Mass, 7PM  
Business Meeting to follow  
KC Hall
- Nov. 11 Veterans Day
- Nov. 19 Turkey Bingo, 6:30-10PM  
St. Stephen's FCC
- Nov. 25 Thanksgiving Day

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### Spaghetti Dinner & Dance

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Dance will be happening this year on December 4th. Mark your calendars and reserve that Saturday for a fun night of great food and enjoyable live music. "The Miller Brothers" will once again provide the evening of entertainment playing music from the 50's and 60's.

The event will be held at the KC hall with social hour beginning at 6PM. Dinner will be served at 7:00 and the band starts playing after dinner.

Dinner will consist of Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce and Garlic Bread accompanied by a Caesar Salad and a glass of wine. Dining will end with a serving of Spumoni Ice Cream.

The cost of this night out is \$15 per person. This event is NOT limited to Knights. Invite friends and neighbors to come and enjoy the evening with us.

Beverages available at the hall will be beer, pop and any remaining wine from dinner. B.Y.O.B.

RSVP's are being taken, so please call **John Smetana** at **763-422-1152** or send an email to [jnlsmetana@q.com](mailto:jnlsmetana@q.com) and let us know how many are planning to attend.

We hope to hear from you!  
Ray Danzl, Phil Lesnar, and John Smetana, Chairs

### Memorial Mass

On November 9th, we will honor our deceased members, our brothers, who have passed away this past year. Please join us for our annual Memorial Mass at the KC hall at 7:00 p.m. The names of those members are: Sylvan Bauer Sr., Dennis Darveau, William Bauer, Raymond Pipenhagen, Eugene Gustafson, Duane Bouley, Earl Dehn, Merle Mevisen, Gilbert Dullinger, Nicholas Meyer, and Richard Meyer.

Gary Kempf  
chairman

### Free Throw Contest Chairman

We are looking for someone to help with running the Free Throw Contest. This contest is for girls and boys age 10-14 years old. If you are interested in getting involved, this would take minimal time and effort to coordinate. I am willing to assist you. This event will be held in January. If you are interested please contact Vern Rausch at 763-422-1128 or [vrrjrr@hotmail.com](mailto:vrrjrr@hotmail.com).



## TURKEY

## BINGO

Our 53rd annual Turkey Bingo is coming up. The date is Friday, November 19, 2010 from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m. This year's event will be held in the Faith Community Center at St. Stephen's Church. We are in need of help so please consider working a shift. There will be two shifts. The first shift is from 6:15 to 8:15 p.m. and the second shift is from 8:15 p.m. to 10:15 p.m. Please tell your friends and co-workers too, or better yet bring them along. You will have a great time whether you are working or playing Bingo.

Vern Rausch, Coordinator  
H: 763-422-1128  
[vrrjrr@hotmail.com](mailto:vrrjrr@hotmail.com)