



*From the
Chaplain*

**HOLY FAMILIES
HOLY HUSBANDS & HOLY
FATHERS**

The Christmas season features the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Once Jesus was born it was no longer a wife and a husband alone but the parents and a child. The feast of the Holy Family usually is celebrated on the first Sunday after Christmas, but this year is an exception. Since Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary, January 1, are both on Sundays, an occurrence that happens every six or seven years, this year Holy Family is celebrated on Friday, December 30. Nevertheless, the importance of family is featured until the last day of the Christmas Season, the Baptism of the Lord, on January 9.

While the most important person of the Holy Family is Jesus who has primacy over all, we as Knights of Columbus, all men, take special inspiration from his father Joseph, a saintly man, the individual who receives the second-most attention in St. Matthew's Infancy Narrative. Joseph gave excellent example, and he points men in the right direction on the path to holiness.

Joseph was righteous (Mt 1:19). He was careful to obey the Mosaic Law, God's commands in Scripture, and he was honest, just, and truthful in all of his dealings. He prayed regularly, by himself, at home with his family, at the local synagogue in Nazareth and at the Temple in Jerusalem. As Knights, we are called to be righteous, good Catholics who obey Jesus and his gospel, the Church and its teachings. Moreover, we are called to be trustworthy, men of our word, honorable and reliable. And we need to make prayer part of every day.

An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph four times (Mt 1:20-21; 2:13,19,22). The angel was God's messenger, and every time the angel spoke, Joseph obeyed. We, too, must obey God's commands: to be faithful to our spouse; kindly to our children;



and humble, merciful, clean of heart, and peacemakers. Brother Knights imitate Joseph and comply with divine teaching.

Joseph took his family to Egypt to protect them from King Herod and anyone who would do them harm (Mt 2:13-15). Good men protect their families from harm, from those who give bad example, from bullies, from people with bad boundaries, from dangerous situations, from bad TV, from bad drugs, and from harmful practices.

Finally, Joseph settled his family in Nazareth (Mt 2:23). He lived in a good neighborhood with other faith-filled Jews and worked diligently in his carpenter's shop (Mt 13:55). Good men try to situate their homes in decent communities near a church, good neighbors, and outstanding schools. Furthermore, they seek good jobs where they can best-use their God-given talents to contribute to the welfare of society and provide for their families.

Fr. Mike Van Sloun

*Grand
Knight's
Message*



Greetings Brother Knights:

Happy New Year to my Brother Knights. I hope the New Year will bring joy and happiness to you and your family. As I write this article I was thinking of all the things that happened in 2011. Recapping the past year's events is a way I put the year in perspective. I can say that 2011 was good for me and my family.

Our council held a couple of events in December. The Spaghetti Dinner held on December 3rd was a big success! The entertainment was provided by the Miller Brothers band. Their music brought us back to the 60s & 70s era. During the evening many prizes were raffled off with all the proceeds going to the Anoka County Brotherhood Council Food Shelf. A donation of \$775 was made to them. A big Thank You goes to John Smetana and Ray Danzel and all the others that helped with this event. On December 10th, our council held a major degree at the KC hall. I want to thank all of the Knights that helped make this event a great success. I would like to congratulate Brother Knight, Stephen Hobday, on earning his second and third degree rank. I would like all of our first degree Knights to consider becoming a second and third degree member thus joining us in Unity and Fraternity. Also, after our regular December meeting Cy Dehn & Jim Nielsen served their famous Tom & Jerry drinks. Thank you Cy & Jim for a job well done.

Later this month we will hold the annual Mid-Winter Breakfast at St. Stephens in the Faith Community Center. I hope you can stop in and have a great breakfast.

We still have a couple of open positions for officers and directors. These positions will give you an opportunity to learn about our council's activities. Please contact me if you are interested.

Peace,
Vern Rausch
Grand Knight



**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; Michael Lehn; John Gubernatz; Robert Nichols; Leon Barnier; PGK John Johanson; Brian Hoffman; Bob Belousek; Benno Barthel; Wayne Blue; Jeff Kieffer; Bill Ayers; Mathias Schaut; Jim Meyer; John & Theresa Downing.

If you wish to add a name to the list, please contact Shield Editor Mike Petschl at 763-421-7926 or mickeyp1543@gmail.com.

History 2018

Extras

This month I have a couple of special items I want to share with you. The first one qualifies as historical because about two years ago Bill Ayers had a stroke. He has been on our prayer list for all but one month since. He has struggled to regain his ability to perform daily tasks that most of us take for granted. His journey to this point has not been easy. He has been in and out of the hospital with setbacks, but he never gave up.

Now, I'll be the first to tell ya' that Bill is stubborn just like all the rest of us guys (as our wives are quick to inform us), but he is also determined. And back on December 3rd at the Spaghetti Dinner and Dance we saw the results of that determination when he and Shirley took to the dance floor, not just once, but several times. Man, what an inspiration! In my view it was nothing short of miraculous. Bill is a fine example of what can be accomplished with a strong will, the help and support of a good wife and family and a firm belief that God will walk the journey with him. But let's not make this the end of the story, because he still needs our prayers and support, so please keep him on your prayer list for continued recovery.

The second item also has to do with dancing. Many of you know Tom Ward I'm sure and if you don't, you should. Tom is an historian also. He writes a history column for the Anoka Union regularly and is on the board of the Anoka County Historical Society. While doing some research recently, Tom came across this ad in the Union from December of 1938. He sent it on to me and, hopefully, it will be readable. Check out that admission fee!

DANCE

THE OLD YEAR OUT
And The NEW YEAR IN

AT THE
K. C. HALL SAT. NITE

DECEMBER 31, 1938

Bring your friends, young and old,
and make it the best party ever.

DANCING EVERY SAT. NIGHT
ADMISSION 25c

Well that's all from here, 'cuz my time is up. Just remember how precious life really

is and enjoy every day of it. See ya' next month!
Mike Petschl, historian

Marriage Amendment 2012

Over the last several years most of our articles have focused on the continued threats to the Unborn posed by the abortion laws in the U. S. We have encouraged you to contact your Federal Legislators to register your objections not only to these cruel laws, but also to their funding by our tax dollars. While affirming the Rights of the Unborn is central to building a Culture of Life, other aspects of life are important as well.

In November we as voters will have the opportunity to support our conviction of Marriage in the State of Minnesota as the union of one man and one woman. This would come in the support of the passage of the Marriage Amendment to the Minnesota State Constitution. In Minnesota Marriage is already defined as the union of one man and one woman. Having the Constitution thus amended will strengthen Marriage, not redefine it.

In the months leading up to the November vote we will be presenting more information on this important topic. We will present ideas on what we as Catholic voters can do to work within our Parish and Community to support passage of this Amendment.

Pat Larson

CANA DINNER

Again this year the Knights have been asked to work at the Cana Dinner which will be held Saturday, February 4, 2012, at St. Stephen's Church. We will need 6-8 volunteers to work at this event. Please contact Vern Rausch at 763-422-1128 or vr-rjrr@hotmail.com if you are interested in helping.

INSURANCE COLUMN

Brother Knights and Families,

As I write this, everyone's still celebrating the stock market's huge November 30th jump of nearly 500 points! That certainly was impressive, but let's be careful not to lose sight of reality. Those who pay attention will notice that the stock market rises on *headlines* and pays less attention to fundamentals.

Understand that I am not a "doom and gloom" person. I prefer to view the glass as "half full" not "half empty," but I also prefer reality over emotion. If you pay close attention to the economy like I do, and I hope you do, you will see that the economic storm clouds continue to build. The European economy is on the brink of collapse and the US economy is tied more closely to Europe than ever before.

The market rose primarily on the announcement that the world's central banks and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is rescuing Europe's economy (can you say "bail-out?"). It's this *headline* that made the market skyrocket, not economic fundamentals! Now, keep in mind the US provides 17% of the IMF's funding, meaning that we are on the hook for a huge share of this risky venture. In my opinion, most European countries will *not* take the quick and drastic steps necessary to save themselves or alter their way of financial thinking. Instead, European politicians will use this new found source of wealth as a way of forestalling the inevitable, thereby protecting their careers for a little longer.

What does this mean to those who are invested in the markets? Be prepared long term for more of the same bumpy ride you've been experiencing the last 10-12 years. Want to learn about some solid, practical alternative courses of action? Give me a call!

God bless,
Dale Robinson, FIC
Certified Senior Advisor
Knights of Columbus Field Agent
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The SHIELD



Planning Meeting every 1st Tuesday

Council Meeting every 2nd Tuesday

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 1 Mary, Mother of God
- Jan. 3 Planning Meeting, 7:30PM
KC Hall
- Jan. 10 Business Meeting, 7:30PM
KC Hall
- Jan. 23 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

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TURKEY BINGO

Our Turkey Bingo was a huge event this year. We made an all-time high of \$3,110.00.

Congratulations to all those who made this a great success. We had a record crowd in attendance. The FCC rooms were full. 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. Also, thanks to the Boy Scouts for handling the concessions and handing out the turkeys.

Three names were drawn for the 20# turkeys at the end of the night. The winners are: Madi St. Germain, Julie M. & Jena Wachowiak.

THANKS EVERYBODY!

Vern Rausch
Bingo Co-Chairman

Osseo/Maple Grove Waffle Breakfast

Dad's Belgian Waffles will be served at a breakfast on Sunday, January 22, from 8:15 until 12:30 in the St. Vincent de Paul School Cafeteria and Gym. All you care to eat waffles with a serving of sausage, juice or milk and coffee will be served. The Osseo/Maple Grove Knights of Columbus invite you to enjoy these famous melt in your mouth waffles at this fundraiser breakfast.

A Reality Quote

Do you know what you call those who use towels and never wash them, eat meals and never do the dishes, sit in rooms they never clean and are entertained until they drop? If you have just answered 'a house guest', you're wrong, because I have just described my kids.

Erma Bombeck

Do You Know a Membership Prospect??

I will be conducting information sessions for prospective members once again in January. The dates are Tuesday, January 17; Thursday, January 19; and Tuesday, January 24. I will cover a basic history of the Knights, the structure of the organization from Supreme level down to 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 PM at the Anoka KC Hall, 2421 4th Ave. N. Choose any one of the three sessions. If you know of a potential candidate call me or just have him show up at one of the sessions. Current members that would like to know more about the Knights are also welcome to attend. Call me at 763-421-0116 with any questions.

Al Kempf, Membership Director