

Chaplain's Corner



By
Chaplain's
Assistant
Deacon
Chuck

Jubilee Year of Mercy

"Be merciful, just as [also] your Father is merciful. Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

(Lk 6:36-38)

The Jubilee Year of Mercy began in December! As we strive to live out the mercy and love of God, we should take heart in the motto for the Jubilee of Mercy, "Merciful Like the Father" (MV, nos. 13-14). What does it mean to be merciful like the Father—how is God merciful? Throughout Scripture, we see many examples of God's mercy, such as his judgment of individuals and nations. Additionally, powerful examples are found in God's actions of salvation throughout history—in the history of Israel in the Old Testament, in the prophets, in the life, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Christ, in the sending of the Holy Spirit to the Church at Pentecost, etc. Mercy is not just an act of clemency for those who have done wrong. It is a way of life that is manifested in the compassion, love, and joy we see that God has for all creation.

While it is easy to see how God is merciful through the witness of the Scriptures and the life of the Church, it is sometimes challenging for us to apply it to our daily actions. How do we live out what Christ calls us to in Scripture? Our ability to live out this motto is dependent on our accepting God's superabundant love and mercy that he pours out on us. Once we are nourished with God's mercy and allow his merciful love to transform us, we are better able to show others this merciful love (MV, no. 14). Adopting a merciful attitude is not simply a spiritual action; it also includes physical acts that witness to God's love. Luke 6:37-38 provides us with examples of how our actions can reflect the way that God treats us: through not judging or condemning, by



forgiving others, and by giving generously to others (MV, no. 14). However, our actions of mercy are not simply things we do so that we will be judged worthy by God. They are actions that flow from our embrace of God's mercy and love for us. By showing mercy and love to others, we illustrate how we have accepted God's merciful love and how we want to continue this outpouring of mercy (MV, no. 14).

Here are several questions for Reflection:

1. Where do I see God's love and mercy acting in my own life?
2. What is one way that I can receive these gifts from God and acknowledge them in my own spiritual life?
3. What does it mean for me, for my family, or for my parish, to be merciful as God is merciful?
4. How can I/we concretely express this merciful attitude that is grounded on the love of God?

My goal for the New Year? I will strive to let God's love and mercy shine through in all that I say and all that I do. That's a big goal and may seem daunting but I think we can all do it. **One** act of kindness, **One** word of love and support, **One** act of mercy... at a time.

Vivat Jesus!

Prayer

List

Please pray for all those on our prayer list:

Jim Lovsted; Patrick O'Gorman; Blake Wahlberg; Michael Lehn; John Gobernatz; PGK John Johanson; Brian Hoffman; Wayne Blue; Bill Ayers; Mathias Schaust; Jim Meyer; Michael Abbott; Vern Lieser; Florian Backowski; Theresa Filkins (wife of Bob); Bob Belousek; Steve Waterman; Ed Melnarik; PGK Steve Seman; Tom O'Connell; Rick Aberle; Colleen Wernimont (wife of Ralph); Barb Petschl (wife of Mike).

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

Grand
Knight's
Message



Brother Knights and Significant Others:

Happy New Year to all of you! Welcome to 2016! The holiday season is now over and post-Christmas retail sales are coming to an end, or may even be starting for next Christmas already! One thing is for sure; our council will continue to service our church, our community, our youth, and our families all year long! I am thankful for the gifted members of our council who continue to donate their time and energy to help in all of these areas. We, as a council, continue to age. To keep doing what we do, we need to keep recruiting new members to join our council and to participate in these events. With this need, I would like to explore an idea discussed at a recent planning meeting, of having a mentorship program where current members and/or officers would be available to our newer members of the council, and welcome them to our meetings and activities. Let me know if you would be interested.

At the December general meeting, we had our umpteenth Tom and Jerry night. A special thanks to Jim Neilson and Pete Beberg, for providing Tom and Jerry's to approximately 25 members. As always, a well-attended event!

Kevin Setterholm has been working on several "Faith Formation" activities for this year, and the first one will start up the second weekend of January (please read his article). Phil Harter challenged all in attendance on December 15th to come support this Prayer Series, and to show that the Knights stand behind our priests and support the church and its activities. I would like to extend that challenge to all of us reading this Shield. Even if you can make it to just one of the sessions, we can still show our strength in numbers!

Vivat Jesus!

Gary Kempf
Grand Knight

History 2018

The depression - Part I

The depression is a big topic, so I'll break this into 3 parts. We'll start with the years leading up, because many things happened that could have had a bearing on the subject. I'm talking about prohibition, farmers, taxes, free spending Americans and the stock market crash.

Prohibition was the law of the land for 10 years prior to the depression, which created a black market for alcohol and with it bootleggers, rumrunners, speakeasies and organized crime in all its forms. Try as they might, the authorities couldn't shut it down. Alcoholism and deaths due to alcohol greatly increased.

During WWI farmers were doing well. There was a great demand for farm commodities here and in Europe. They were doing so well, in fact, that they kept buying more land and planting more crops. That drove the price of land up. When the war ended Europe stabilized and started growing their own crops again and the demand for U.S. farm commodities went way down. Can you see where this is going? On top of that, President Harding decided to pull the wheat price supports and the walls came tumblin' down, as they say. Many farmers were over extended and lost everything.

In the meantime, big business flourished as the Harding administration worked to reduce taxes on corporations and the wealthy while putting the burden on the middle and lower classes. Harding died in August, 1923, and vice president Calvin Coolidge became the president. He was reelected in 1924 and continued the Harding administration policies, because the economy was still doing well.

When Herbert Hoover won the presidency in 1928, the auto industry was growing by leaps and bounds, airlines were in their infancy, the entertainment industry was expanding with sports venues and movie theaters and technology was on the rise with radio and television. The economy was good, installment purchasing made it easy to buy, Americans had money and they were spending it.

The year 1929 got off to a good start with stocks continuing to rise. Ignoring the warnings of many economists, speculators continued to buy creating a bull market that peaked on September 3rd, with many stocks at record highs. Unfortunately, all good things come to an end! On September 5th, things started to unravel and a major break occurred on Wednesday, October 23rd, with heavy selloffs late in the day. Panic struck on the morning of October 24th, 'Black Thursday' (not to be confused with our 'Black Fridays' of today), but heavy trading came back on Friday and Saturday and stocks held. Then on Monday, October 28th, panic returned and on Tuesday, October 29th, it all came apart and the bottom fell out. The market stabilized somewhat in early 1930 and then continued the downward spiral to the final collapse.

And that pretty much brings us up to the start of the depression, so we'll take a break, 'cuz my time is up. See ya' next month!

Mike Petschl, historian

Are Your Term Life Rates Going Up? Then Read This.

Too often, people buy their life insurance and then simply forget about it. I admit that it is not the most exciting thing to dig out of the drawer and go through, but you should at least pay attention to your statements when you receive them.

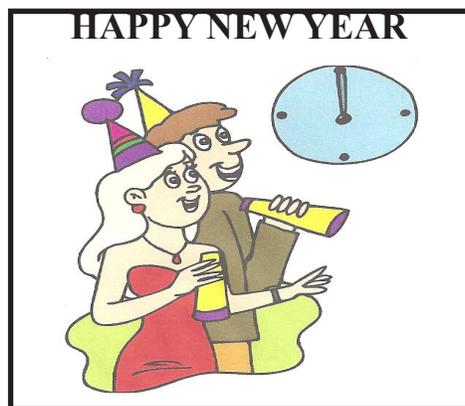
If you purchased a 5, 10, 15, 20, or 30 year level term life insurance policy then be sure to check your policy and/or bank statement to find out how much you are paying. Even though your policy is still in force, your rates will go up dramatically at the end of the term period. That's the way term life insurance works. If you still have the need for coverage, call me so I can show you how you may be able to bring your rates down to a manageable level. It makes no sense to overpay when you do not have to.

I often encounter folks who believe that their term life insurance rates never go up. This simply isn't true. Term life insurance is designed to go up in premium. This is because it is intended to be temporary coverage only. There are some policies that will last a long time, say to the age of 85, but the premiums will go up in the interim and be incredibly high by that time. In most cases, you will have paid more in premiums than you receive in benefit.

While you are checking your premiums, check you beneficiaries, too. Make sure the benefit is going to the right person(s). Perhaps you have a beneficiary listed who is now deceased or maybe you are now divorced. Forgetting to make this change can cause headaches and legal issues.

Please call me if you need an update on your life insurance coverage. I can help you save money and make sure your beneficiaries are up to date. As always, I promise never to try and sell you anything you don't need. You have my word!

God bless,
Dale Robinson, FIC
Certified Senior Advisor
Knights of Columbus Field Agent
651-757-4400 (office)
dale.robinson@kofclife.com



Prayer Series

The Anoka Council of the Knights of Columbus will be co-sponsoring a 7 session course titled "A Guide to Catholic Prayer" between Sunday Masses in the FCC. The classes are free and will be held from 9:40-10:20AM, January 10, 17, 31, February 14, 21, 28, and March 6.

Prayer is the foundation of a healthy spiritual life. If you struggle to find time to pray or if you find it difficult to calm your mind long enough to pray, this 7 session course may be the catalyst to start you on the path to a fulfilling prayer life. By actively participating in the course you will:

- Become aware of God's presence in your life.
- Discover the simple yet profound steps of Catholic prayer.
- Learn how to respond to God and express yourself in prayer.
- Discover how to hear God's voice in Scripture, in your heart, and in ordinary moments.
- Learn how to overcome frustrations, distractions and dryness in prayer.
- Grow in your relationship with God and those around you.

As a Knight you are highly encouraged to participate in this course and to bring members of your family and friends. Refreshments will be served. There is no fee nor pre-registration and you can attend classes as your schedule allows.

If you are interested in attending this series of classes and willing to help with hospitality, please contact Kevin Setterholm at ksetterholm@q.com or 763-757-9786 (landline).

Letter of Thanks From ACBC

All of us at ACBC would like to thank you for your recent donation of 1,240 lbs. of food and \$94. According to Second Harvest, your event provided 1,236 meals for the hungry! This is a busy time of year at the food shelf and last month volunteers served 935 families and distributed over 77,000 lbs. of food. This level of service would not be possible without the help of our generous community. We wish all of you the best as we head into the holidays!

Sincerely,
Jerri Loughry, ACBC Manager

NOTE

KC Supreme has a Food for Families Program where they will reimburse us \$100 for each 1,000 lbs. of food donated. Good job and thanks to all involved.

Gary Kempf, GK



The SHIELD



Planning Meeting 1st Tuesday

Council Meeting 2nd Tuesday

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 1 New Year's Day
Holiday
Mary, Mother of God
Holyday of Obligation
- Jan. 5 Planning Meeting, 7PM
KC Hall
- Jan. 12 Business Meeting, 7PM
KC Hall
- Jan. 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Holiday

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January 12th Admission Degree

Before the January 12, 2016 meeting starting at 7:00 PM there will be a ceremony installing new members into our order. The Anoka council will be providing the installation team. There is always a need for more brother Knights to become part of our degree staff. The Anoka Council used to have one of the best teams in the state as we were asked to do an Admissions Degree at one of the State Council's meetings. Many of those staff members are no longer on the team. We need replacements and backups at all positions to help install our new members. Come to the meeting on January 12 and observe the degree and then volunteer for a position on the team. We need younger brother Knights to carry on Fr. McGivney's traditions.

Al Kempf

IN MEMORIAM

Brother Knight Douglas Ottenstroer of St. Johns, FL, has passed away. He was 70 years old and was a member of Council 2018 for 48 years. Please remember Douglas and his family members in your prayers.

Member Information Needed

We have lost contact with Richard Carlson, age 79. Last known address: 1483 132nd Ln NW, Coon Rapids; spouse: Arlene. If you can provide any information please contact our Financial Secretary Roger Renner at 763-286-9355 or rener@ehrenner.com.

Motion to be voted 1/12/16

At the January meeting a motion will be voted on to support the purchase of YOUCAT catechisms for St. Stephen's Church and its formation programs. This year 95 catechisms are required. The total cost for these will be \$1,235.00. Last year, the first year they were being used, 230 were required so the Anoka Council contributed \$1,000.00 toward the purchase. Later that was followed up with a matching fund grant of \$1,000.00 provided by the Minnesota Knights of Columbus Foundation contributing additional funding toward the cost. The motion this time will cover the purchase of this year's requirement in full at a cost of \$1,235.00. If there are questions or concerns regarding this motion please be at the meeting or contact an officer of the council.

Al Kempf 763-421-0116

Volunteers needed for KC Free Throw Contest

Our council will be hosting the annual Free Throw Contest at St. Stephen's School during the week of January 11th. David Hudoba is facilitating the event and is in need of 2 volunteers each day of the week (M-F). The volunteers' job consists of counting and recording the number of baskets made by each contestant. The time commitment is between 1-2 hours during the school day. If you are able to help with this event, please contact David at 763-767-2492.

Hope 4 Youth

We recently visited Hope 4 Youth to deliver a check for \$400 to support the homeless youth in Anoka County. A few of us received a tour of the facility, located in the Old Milk Factory up the street. It was a rather "eye-opening" experience for us, as we listened to what these kids do every day to survive. These kids are not drug addicts, but victims of socio-economic hardships and family issues, and are 15-21 years old. We, as a council, have an opportunity to do more. We are hoping to have Ann Keefe available for the Lecturers program for our February general meeting. Please watch for more updates in upcoming emails or newsletters.