

## Chaplain's Corner FROM THE ARCHIVES

Fr. Karl Wittman

January 1970

If the birth of Christ does nothing else, it should strengthen our faith. What a precious gift is the gift of faith! One cannot buy it, earn it, borrow it, for it is a gift given to us in our baptism. But faith is a virtue that needs to be exercised. Every day our prayer, our devotion should strengthen this virtue.

Unfortunately, some lose this gift. This loss could be one's greatest tragedy. Bishops, priests and lay can be counted among those who have lost their faith. We all know them, for their lives are empty. The loss of faith is sometimes hard to explain. The death of a wife or child, financial reverses, scandal in the Church, the concept that God is not concerned about us, any number of things can affect the man of weak faith. Perhaps more than anything in our time the feeling that we and our world are sufficient unto ourselves is weakening the faith. Strange that an affluent society is quick to lose its faith in God and His Church.

The feast of our Lord's Nativity and the whole mystery of Christ becoming man should deepen and strengthen our faith, which the Scriptures call the 'pearl of great price'.

Fr. Charles Brambilla

January 1973

The greatest of all the commandments is to love God and to love our neighbor. Different religions have stressed this through thousands of years, but on every continent we still see the results of violence and selfishness.

Religion only becomes effective when we take it to heart. We have the capability of expressing this love that Jesus speaks of, but unless we do, Paul tells us our lives are worthless.



## Grand Knight's Message



Brother Knights and Significant Others:

Another calendar year gone! 2016 was a great year for our council and thanks to those who helped to make us successful with our countless activities, events and hall rentals! Our presence at St. Stephen's is much appreciated! We have many events to continue that presence, with a great need for your help and participation in the upcoming months.

Mark your calendars for our upcoming events: Mid-Winter Breakfast, Cana Dinner and Dance, KC Adult Catholic Education Course, Lenten Fish Dinners, etc. We will be looking for help with many of these events, so get your phone ready to call an event chairman to volunteer!

Now that the Christmas season is winding down, many of us make and try to maintain New Year's resolutions. It can be a daunting task, especially with the getting physically fit part! Why not make a resolution to be more involved in the council? It may be easier than some of those other resolutions! If you are interested in doing more or have an interest in a particular event, please contact me.

We will be hosting a Major Degree on March 5<sup>th</sup>. If you know of someone on the fence about joining the council, or know someone that needs to or is willing to join, please contact Al Kempf at 763-421-0116, or any of the officers on the phone list published in the Shield. Use the Shield as a recruiting tool- it is a great "show and tell" about our council and what we do for the parish and the community.

2017 looks to be another busy year. You are the best asset we have at the council- I hope that all of you, and your families, have a safe and successful year! I also hope to see many of you at our activities and events!

Vivat Jesus!  
Gary Kempf

Each of us has a conscience by which we know what path to follow when we have a choice between two courses – one that is easy but not moral, and one that is hard but right. Our conscience gives us good direction, but we can choose to disregard it.

The people who give us great hope are those who have discovered how to integrate Christ's commandment of love with their own conscience. They know the greatest happiness comes from unselfish acts: to give a hand to someone in need, to volunteer our services for a worthy cause, to be concerned about the spiritual values in our lives.

In this new year may we experience and express God's love in a special way through our lives. Through unselfishness may we discover the source of all happiness.



## Prayer List

Please pray for all those on our prayer list:

Jim Lovsted; Patrick O'Gorman; Blake Wahlberg; Michael Lehn; John Gobernatz; Brian Hoffman; Wayne Blue; Bill Ayers; Mathias Schaut; Jim Meyer; Michael Abbott; Vern Lieser; Florian Backowski; Theresa Filkins (wife of Bob); Bob Belousek; Ed Melnarik; Tom O'Connell; Colleen Wernimont (wife of Ralph); Marge Pinewski (widow of Phil); Terry Velasco; Deacon Chuck Waugh; Jane Herr (wife of Elmer).

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 Council Events

I decided to dig into our pile of Shields, dating back to 1959, to see what type of events the council members have held over the years. Many of our long time members (notice I didn't say 'old' members) and their wives will remember these, I'm sure. If I added pictures of the events, you would really realize how far back they were. So, without further ado, here's the list according to my research. We will complete this in two articles.

In 1959 it looks like we had an active Columbian Squires Circle and the Columbian Ladies appear to have started in 1960. We also had an active Squelettes Circle for a few years. I guess all this was in the days when families didn't have every minute of the day consumed by the children's sporting events and activities.

Speaking of sporting events, let me regale you with a few from our active membership. We still have the golf league, but we used to have a bowling league, a couple of softball teams, a volleyball night and a fishing trip in the second week of the season. Nuns Day and Youth Day at Metropolitan Stadium can be added as passive type sporting events, also. (Without dating myself, hopefully, are there a few of you out there who can remember Knot Hole games at Nicollett Park?) Other outdoor events included hay/sleigh rides, depending on the season.

They had picnics, some of our own and some in conjunction with the Shriners from Anoka. I guess you could call them ecumenical picnics. Those were big time functions held at the Weigh Station Park on Highway 10 with food, music, children's games, competition softball games and a whole lot a' fun.

Other council events involving food were a Philippine Luau prepared by our own Monico Ancheta (I wish I had been around for that one!), the Steak Fry and Fish Fry. Steak fries were originally held at the Weigh Station Park, then moved to Rum River Park by the fair grounds and ended at Mississippi Park by Cutter's Grove. There were some pretty cold nights when they were held in September! The Fish Fry started out as a Columbus Day Fish Fry about 1973 and then moved to the Friday before Palm Sunday.

BINGO anyone?! We have been holding Turkey Bingo since 1958 and Ham Bingo since 1968. A raffle was held as part of Turkey Bingo for many years with tickets being sent to the members to sell.

Eventually, the post office clamped down on sending raffle tickets through the mail and that ended that. The Armory was used for many of the early years and then it moved to the school gym for a few years until the church remodel gave us the FCC. And don't forget the Fair Bingo at the Anoka County Fair held during the first week of August every year from about 1974 until 2009. Our sitting Grand Knight, Gary Kempf, chaired that event for many years.

More next month, 'cuz space is limited and my time is up!

Mike Petschl, historian

### Volunteers Needed for Cana Dinner & Dance

The Anoka Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Cana Dinner and Valentine's Dance for the St. Stephen's parish on February 11<sup>th</sup> after the 5:00 Mass. Volunteers are needed to sell tickets after Masses on the following dates: January 28, 29 and February 4, 5. If you would like to help sell tickets after one of the Masses, please contact Kevin Setterholm at 763-757-9786 or [ksetterholm@q.com](mailto:ksetterholm@q.com).

### RSVP for Cana Dinner and Valentine Dance

On Saturday, February 11, after the 5:00 Mass, the Anoka Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Cana Dinner and Valentine's Dance in the FCC. All Parishioners are welcome.

- Speaker Father: Jack Long
- Dinner catered by Red's Café: stuffed chicken breast, potato, vegetable, salad, roll, assorted deserts.
- Dance Disc Jockey Paul Young: all styles of music from ballroom, to oldies to pop to Latin... requests welcomed.
- Beer and wine will be provided with a free will offering.

The cost for the evening is \$20.00 per person and tickets can be purchased through Kevin Setterholm [ksetterholm@q.com](mailto:ksetterholm@q.com) or 763-757-9786.

### Officer Position Opening

We are looking for someone to become the Recorder at our meetings. This position documents discussions at our planning and general business meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Good listening and documentation skills are the primary functions of this position. If you are interested, please contact Gary Kempf at [kempffamily@msn.com](mailto:kempffamily@msn.com) or 763-464-8116.

## Spaghetti Dinner & Dance

The 17th Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Dance will be happening on January 14th, 2016. Mark your calendar to reserve that Saturday for a fun night of great food and enjoyable live music. "The Miller Brothers" will provide us with an evening of entertainment playing music from the 50's, 60's, and some 70's.

We plan to have nice prizes, donated from local businesses, which everyone will have a chance to win. All money collected from guests for these prizes will be donated to Lyric Arts, a local non-profit organization. Lyric Arts started in Anoka in 1995 to bring a Professional Performing Arts to Anoka. They have been providing year-around performances on Main Street since 2001 as well as theatre workshops, School-day Matinees and educational outreach programs.

The evening of fun, food, music, and dancing will be held at the KC hall with social hour beginning at 6PM. Dinner will be served at 7:00 and the band will start 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 unchanged since our first dinner/dance at \$15 per person. This event is OPEN TO FRIENDS AND PARISHIONERS. 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 Ray and Kelly Danzl at 763-754-6303 or send an email at [anokakchall@gmail.com](mailto:anokakchall@gmail.com) to let us know how many are planning to attend. We certainly hope to hear from you!

Ray Danzl, Phil Lesnar, and Dave Richards,  
Chairs

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
TO  
ONE AND ALL!**



# The SHIELD



Planning Meeting 1st Tuesday

Council Meeting 2nd Tuesday

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[www.anokakc.org](http://www.anokakc.org)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 1 New Year's Day  
Mary Mother of God
- Jan. 3 Planning Meeting, 7PM  
KC Hall
- Jan. 10 Business Meeting, 7PM  
KC Hall
- Jan. 14 Spag. Dinner & Dance, 6PM  
KC Hall
- Jan. 16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Jan. 23-25 Free Throw Contest  
St. Stephen's School

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**16950 Tulip St. N.W.**  
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### Brunch with St. Nicholas

The council hosted a Brunch and Photograph with St. Nicholas event on December 4th, after the 10:30 Mass. There were 150 guests with 36 families in attendance. The council officers would like to extend our appreciation to Keith Lilly who manned the camera, Deacon Peter Bednarczyk, who posed as St. Nicholas, and to Jeff Kieffer who organized the kitchen and dining room staff. This event was a success because of the large number of Knights and wives who volunteered to sell tickets after Masses, prepared and served food, bused tables and washed dishes. Thank you to all of the volunteers!

### Looking for Casino Game Night Committee Members

A casino game night for the parishioners of St. Stephen's is being planned for May 5. A group of Knights are needed for brainstorming ideas and planning. If you are interested in being part of a planning committee for this event, please contact Kevin Setterholm at 763-757-9786 or [ksetterholm@q.com](mailto:ksetterholm@q.com).

### Do You Know a Membership Prospect??

I will be conducting information sessions for prospective members once again after the New Year. The dates are Thursday, January 12, and Tuesday, January 17. 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 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. N. Choose any one of the two 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. Wives are welcome to attend. It would help if I know in advance who might be coming since I have a lot of handouts. Al Kempf  
Membership Director, Council #2018

### Help the Homeless

Jason Holt has been stationed outside of the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis serving sandwiches and water to the homeless from 5:30 until about 8:00 (until the sandwiches are gone) every Friday night. He is looking for help as he cannot make every Friday evening. His mission is to keep this going even if he cannot do it himself. If you are interested in helping Jason out, please contact him at 763-228-7386 for more details. He is also looking to provide sleeping bags too, so if you have any to donate, please contact him, or bring them to the council chambers on a meeting night.

### Anoka KC Website

Visit our website at [www.anokakc.org](http://www.anokakc.org). Don Nagel has been updating our site with current information and communications (thanks Don!). We are still in the process of providing more details and materials on the site to keep you more informed, such as recruiting or membership information and videos.