**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 9139** January, 2014



Business Meeting 1st Tuesday of Month Planning Meeting Last Tuesday of Month Sean Olmstead, Grand Knight

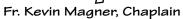
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Fellow Knights and families.

### St. Agnes of Rome

Happy New Year to all! My best wishes to all my brother Knights for a healthy and blessed year. Instead of writing on the typical theme of New Year's resolution and new beginnings, I would like to write about one of my favorite feast days—the Feast of St. Agnes, which takes place on January 21.

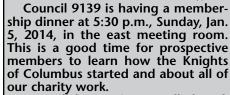
St. Agnes is one of the early martyrs of the Church (304 A.D.) and is mentioned by name in the Roman Canon of the Mass. According to Butler's Lives of the Saints, Agnes was a young noble girl of around 13 years of age who had already decided to deny herself marriage and consecrate herself as a bride of Christ. After refusing many marriage requests her jealous suitors publicly denounced her as a Christian. The local governor's attempts to frighten her with threats of torture proved fruitless. Finally, to humiliate her and mock her virginity, he sentenced Agnes to be imprisoned in a house of prostitution. She was protected against the advances of any man who attempted to come near her and one man was reportedly struck blind. After surviving this threat to her purity, Agnes was finally taken outside and killed by the sword.

St. Agnes is often depicted in art as a young girl with a lamb. This symbolizes her innocence and purity but is also a play on words, because her name is similar to the Latin agnus, meaning "lamb". It is because of this connection that a tradition developed that is still celebrated to this day. Each lives we are doing our jobs as disciples

year on January 21 in the Church of St. Agnes in Rome, two lambs from the Trappist Abbey of Tre Fontane in Rome are led into church and blessed at the altar by the Holy Father. The lambs are traditionally sheared on Holy Thursday and their wool is woven into pallia which are given to newly consecrated archbishops throughout the world. A pallium is a white woolen band about three inches wide marked with six black crosses that an archbishop wears over his liturgical vestments. It is a sign of his jurisdiction and his union with the pope.

Although it may seem to be an incongruous connection between an early fourth-century virgin martyr and the jurisdiction of an archbishop, this tradition on the Feast of St. Agnes shows both the centrality of the Church in the city of Rome and also the universality of the Church throughout the world. It is also a sign of how a seemingly insignificant ritual (the blessing of lambs) can have a place in the larger picture of the Roman Catholic Church. For all the little things we do in the life of the Church, whether they are private personal devotions or charitable pancake breakfasts, they do make a difference in the bigger picture. St. Agnes probably never thought that her example of Christian life would be an inspiration to anyone, but she continues to inspire 1700 years after her death. Each of us has the potential to do the same. We may never see it but that is not the point. If any of us can inspire someone else to draw closer to Jesus Christ because of how we live our

## Membership



We will be serving a Pulled Pork

If you know of a friend, relative or neighbor that would be interested in joining the Knights of Columbus contact, Robert Moreland, 557-0874, Sean Olmstead, 712-5457 or Tom Heltemes, 425-2314.

Sean Olmstead, Tom Heltemes

## **Berkshire Black Jack**

We will be holding a popular Black Jack social activity at Villas of Osseo on Thursday, January 15th at 2:15 p.m. If you are available to help the residents or deal BJ please give Tom Heltemes a call at 763-425-2314.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with bingo on December 21st. Call me to donate or volunteer, 763-424-Forrest Zimpleman

### Calendar of Events

Rosary every Sat. at 10 a.m. at the Robbinsdale Abortion Clinic, 3819 West Broadway. Robbinsdale. Rosary every Tuesday evening in the Cry room at 6:30 p.m.

- Jan. 1, Happy New Year
- Jan. 5, Membership Dinner
- Jan. 7, Membership meet., 7 p.m.
- Jan. 10, St. Vincent's school FT contest
- Jan. 12, Coffee & Company
- Jan. 26, Dad's Belgian Waffle Breakfast
- Jan. 28, Planning meeting, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 1, 1st, 2nd, 3rd degree







Membership Meeting, 1st Tues., 7:00 p.m. West Meeting Room Vol. 25 No. 7

ST. VINCENT de PAUL PARISH

OSSEO/MAPLE GROVE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Osseo/Maple Grove Council 9139

January, 2014

# Grand Knight's Message Sean Olmstead, Grand Knight

Brother Knights and families,

How many of you are going to make a resolution this year? I've never been too big on making them, but I do believe this is a good time to reflect on what's going right and what could use improvement. Try praying a Rosary, followed by a serenity prayer. If you are so moved by the Holy Spirit, make a resolution to become more involved in the Knights of Columbus.

It was great to see everyone at the Communion Breakfast and the food was excellent. Many thanks to Knights of Columbus. the chairmen coordinating December events: Kelvin Landeis & Tom Heltemes (Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest), Lee Bilbro & Kevin Ahlers (Communion Breakfast). The next time you see these gentlemen, thank them for their time and talent in continuing to make this a great council.





Brother Knights please pray for the people on our prayer list: Austin Loeffler, Geraldine Gill, (Jim's) wife, Bob Vogelpohl, Cheri Gerold (Larry's wife), Martine Whatmuff (Dave's wife), Jim Harvey, Amber Johnson (daughter-in-law of Bill Johnson Russ Brown, Jim Wishy, Bob Hazelton, Dan Padden, Chad Swanson, Vincent Bazzani, Clarence Dorweiler, Darlene Loeffler (Austin's wife), Joyce Kirscher (Jack's wife) Don Kramer, Toy McGee (Larry's wife) Christine Munoz (Bob Clark's daughter), Dave Wilhelm, Bernie Bartos & Romana

Remember family members & friends who are sick or are having surgery, men and women serving in the military and those men studying for the priesthood or deaconate. <u>If you know of any Knight</u> or family member who you would like to be included on our prayer list please call Bernie Bartos, 763-577-0997 or Tom

Heltemes, 763-425-2314 or e-mail:

For those who have not been to a meet-

ing, or it has been a while, I invite you back. I can be reached at 763-712-5457 or send me an email at: grandknight9139@gmail.com.

Don't forget to bring a candidate to the Membership Dinner on January 5. See the calendar for other events and volunteer opportunities.

Wishing you and your families a happy, healthy and God filled 2014. May God continue to bless the

Major Degree
Brother Knights, we will be having our major degree at St. Vincent de Paul on Saturday, February 1, 2014. First degree starts at about 9 a.m. Please join us on this day for our district event. If you have a family member or friend that would like to join, please invite them. You can call any of the officers for more information. SPECIAL DRAWING: any member of our council obtaining their 3rd degree on this date will be entered. Grand Prize: dinner with the Grand Knight.

### Free Throw Contest

The KC Free-throw Contest for St. Vincent's School is set for Thursday, Jan. 10th from  $\equiv$ least 6 Brother Knights are needed to help keep 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. At score. Any other youth ages 10-14

can shoot FTs on Jan. 26th. Girls and boys ages 10-14 will par-

ticipate, with the winners moving on to the District Contest in February. If you can help call Tim Holtan at 420-3468.





On Sunday, January 26, 2013 will be hosting another Dad's Belgian Waffle Breakfast from 8:15-12:30. The breakfast will be in the St. Vincent de Paul gym and cafeteria with a menu of sausage & all you care to eat waffles with flavored syrups. Beverages will be coffee and either juice or milk.

Don't miss this great breakfast, i you were at the breakfast the last cou ole of years you know how good Dad's Belgian Waffles are. Bring your family and friends.

Anyone that would like to help oleasé call Sean at 763-712-5457. Sean Olmstead



Pastoral Minister, Margaret Schauer holds a \$400 check for Christmas baskets for St. Vincent de Paul.









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### Looking for a tax deduction? • Don't sell your car, DONATE

IT!! If you or someone that you know has a car, truck, boat or maybe a motor home that runs, save the hassle of selling it and donate it to a good cause. We even take vehicles with rust, oil leaks and dents no problem. Call Brother Knight Paul Greninger 763-425-7316 for details on how to donate. Thank you to those who have. 

### 2013-2014\_COUNCIL Officers & Directors Gr. Knight, Sean Olmstead..... 712-5457

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# Seminarian reports day. It was one-on-one tutoring; four hours in the morning and 2 hours in the hope I can go back there again to minishapped to the people of Cod. We were down there for 10 days, and I hope I can go back there again to minishapped to the people of Cod.

Dear Knights of Columbus,

My name is T.J. McKenzie, and I am one of the seminarians that you have sponsored the past 2 years. I want to thank you once again for your past and current support while I am at the Saint Paul Seminary. I am in Theology 3 this year, and, God willing, I will be ordained a deacon in May by Archbishop Nienstedt at the Basilica of St. Mary.

Since the last time I wrote to you, I have done many things to prepare myself for future ministry in our local Church. Last January, I was blessed to spend 3 weeks in England with my class. When we arrived, we spent the first 3 days in London at a Benedictine Monastery. We toured the city to learn about the religious persecution Catholics faced for hundreds of years. I was able to tour Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral and the Tower of London. During my tour of the Tower of London, I was able to convince the Beefeaters to let me into the side chapel where the body of St. Thomas More is kept. They normally do not let visitors in there! We then travelled to Oxford to study the life and writings of Bl. John Henry Newman, who is considered one of the best preachers in the English language. We had one of the foremost Newman scholars in the world teach us, and I learned a lot about preaching from this

The spring semester offered little surprises. I was busy with classes, my teaching parish, and getting ready for my summer months. The seminary wanted me to learn Spanish for the summer, so I went down to Guadalajara, Mexico for 2 months. I lived with a sweet old lady, Margarita, and went to class 6 hours a

**"KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS"** 

evening. I also went to daily Mass there. It was an intense program, and I am now conversational in Spanish. While down there, I had the opportunity to make a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. It was the highlight of my summer!! It was a beautifully moving experience and one I will never forget. During the trip, I also made a side excursion to the Jesuit parish where the relics of Bl. Miguel Pro are kept. He was martyred for the faith in the 1920s. He is one of my favorite future saints, so I was so grateful finally to be able to go pray before his relics.

Once I got back to the United States, I went to St. Vincent de Paul that very night with my parents for the 5 p.m. Saturday Mass. I have to admit I was struggling to remember the responses in English because I was so used to saying everything in Spanish! After about a week of finally settling into a routine in Maple Grove, I went with 8 other seminarians down to Venezuela. We stayed at the parish in Guayana where 2 priests from our Archdiocese minister. It was an eye-opening experience; there are only 2 priests for 60,000 Catholics in this parish. The majority (~60%) of them live in poverty and only about ~20% make more than the minimum wage. Drugs and violence run rampant in this city, so the Church down there does its best to help people find work, clothing, food, and a safe place to worship. I had the opportunity to practice my Spanish by spending time at a nursing home for AIDS patients, visit the homebound and sick, volunteer at an orphanage, and talk with the catechists. I also played soccer with the neighborhood teenagers every afternoon!

ter to the people of God.

I am enjoying the Fall semester so far. I was named the head Master of Ceremonies at the seminary, so I have been extremely busy planning and coordinating all the major liturgies. It is good preparation for being in the parish.

I want to thank you for all you do for St. Vincent de Paul, our local Church, and for seminarians. We are going through some rough times and we all need to pray for Archbishop Nienstedt and the priests of the Archdiocese most especially. We also need to keep praying for more happy and holy priests!

In Christ and Mary, T.J. McKenzie

### Byron Hagan

This summer I was honored with the opportunity to spend a pastoral residence at SS Peter and Paul and St. Thomas the Apostle churches in Loretto and Corcoran, MN, under the fine tutelage of the pastor, Fr. John Gallas. I kept on top of many activities, including serving at daily Mass, weddings, funerals and wakes, as well as doing some baptism preparation and work with children (VBS) and youth group (summer camp, service trip to Chicago to work with the Missionaries of Charity in their soup kitchen). I also had plenty of time to reflect upon my vocation, pray, and make progress on my graduate thesis in Thomas Aquinas, as well as a good deal of leisure reading. I attended and served at several KC-sponsored "Man Nights" as well, including one with Auxiliary Bishop Lee Piche. Fr. Gallas and I got to be very good friends, and he gave me much good advice and spiritual counsel. I even put in a three-day retreat down at Broomfree Retreat Center, between weeks of youth camp. It was a full but blessed summer!

The fall semester is now drawing to a close, with finals and end-of-year projects rapidly approaching. I've been working hard in this my last semester of major theology courses--the next and final three semesters are made up mostly of liturgical practical and pastoral and preaching seminars. This semester's courses include Aquinas's Summa Theologiae, Gospel of John, Catholic Social Tradition, Sexual Morality, and Hebrew Prophets. I've also been drawing close to a number of fellow seminarians, all of whom I believe will be lifelong friends and brothers as we journey together in service of the Church and, God-willing, priestly ministry.

I expect to be ordained to the transitional diaconate (God-willing), on Saturday, May 3, 2014, at the Basilica of Saint Mary in Minneapolis. I look forward to seeing many brother Knights at the ordination, including the magnificently splendid Honor Guard.

Please keep me in your prayers, as I will you in mine. Bless you all, again, for everything you do in service of Our Lord and his Church.

In Christo Domino Nostro, Byron Hagan Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis St. Paul Seminary, Theology III



Front row - Ryan Anderson, Kayla Heinecke, Yawa Matayo, Leah Price, Samara Tietz, Miranda Olmstead. Middle Row - Abby Hagen, Jordyn Bredenberg, Aliyah Haque, Alexa Hatcher. Back Row - Ian Fernandez, Alina Kanayinkal.