



Knights In Action

Council 2506 Waconia, MN

November 2022

Pro Life Flags

The right to life is unlike any other right. It is the most basic right and the condition of all other personal rights, constituting the foundation of every human community. To show support for life, The Knights and friends of the Knights recently placed 845 flags next to the church representing a child who has been aborted each month in Minnesota. Thanks to all volunteers.



Family and Faith Pancake Breakfast – Pat Millea’s Family Faith Story

The Waconia Knights of Columbus and St. Joseph Catholic Community co-hosted the Family and Faith Pancake Breakfast on October 15th featuring [Leading Speaker, Pat Millea](#). A moving story was shared by Pat on how the faith of families plays a crucial role in the development and sustainability of true Christian values in every family. If you couldn’t join this special event, you can watch the video of [Pat’s Story](#) on the Waconia Knights website under [Knights News](#).



Knight of the Month Our Utility Man

“I can help with that” are the words that fill a need wherever and whenever needed. Like a utility man in baseball, filling a very important role on the team with a willingness to serve – to be able to help in any capacity that the team or in this case, council needs. Our Knight of the Month has filled many roles by coordinating our Columbus Day Mass, re-writing our by-laws, being a Trustee, volunteering for many of our programs, and much more. A big thank you to Fred Bleedorn, our Knight of the month, for his dedication and service to our council.

KC Meetings

Our next Officer meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 15th at 6:00 pm followed by the General Member Meeting at 7:00 pm at St Joes Parish Center in the church lower level. An [Exemplification](#) will be held at the General Meeting for new members. Snacks and beverages will be served. Come and join us and show your support for the new members of our council.



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100 Year Anniversary Polo Shirts – Order Yours Today!

In honor of our councils 100 year celebration in 2023, all Waconia Knights have the opportunity to purchase a nice new polo style shirt made of non-wrinkle material. **The preferred method of ordering and payment** is through the [Knights Apparel Store](#) on the [Waconia Knights website](#). If you're not able to order this way, you can send an email to waconiaknights@gmail.com or call John Short at 612-281-6215 and provide your name, shirt size, and quantity you would like to order. **The deadline for ordering your shirt is December 31st**. Shirts will be distributed, and payment will be collected at the December and January meetings. If you can't make these meetings and need the shirt mailed to you, please provide your mailing address. Postage and handling is \$5.00. Shirt prices are \$21.00 for sizes S-XL and \$23.00 for 2XL. A bill will be sent for payment only when shirts are shipped.



KC Exemplification – November 15th

You are invited to attend a special ceremony of admission and advancement to the Knights of Columbus. Why should you attend? If you are a First-Degree Knight, you have the opportunity to receive the Exemplification for Charity, Unity, and Fraternity which is now combined into one 25-minute ceremony conducted by our local officers. If you are already a Third-Degree Knight, you can come to support your brother Knights and show what it means to be unified as Knights. The [Exemplification](#) is on Tuesday, November 15th at 7:00 PM at the St Joseph Parish Center.

Waconia Knight - Serving Our Country Overseas

From Nick Kehtel, Council 2506 Faith and Social Media Director, and National Guard Officer.

Hello to all my brother Knights. I pray that all is well with you, your families, and your efforts to serve our parish. I'm happy to report that thus far my deployment has been going well, although it has yet to truly begin. I left Minnesota on October 12th, and thus far have been training with my unit in the beautiful and dry climate of a training range north of El Paso, Texas. This has been both physically and mentally challenging, but has also presented a great opportunity to grow in fellowship with the other deploying Soldiers. I will likely be overseas by the time you're reading this, and I can share that I will be first stationed in Jordan at an installation only about 50 miles from the traditionally accepted site of Jesus's baptism along the Jordan river. One of the things I've found most interesting (and concerning) is just how chaotic and tragic the situation in the Middle East remains currently, especially in Syria and northern Iraq. The hard truth that has been reinforced to me in these last few weeks during various briefings and trainings, building upon the geopolitical awakening I experienced as a child on September 11th, 2001, is that there remains malicious forces who murder, maim, and destroy



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innocent life which gets in the way of their political and ideological goals. These militias and radical jihadist forces active in the Middle East currently, including ISIL and other terrorist groups, may not be in the news much in Western nations anymore, but I can assure you they continue to wreak horror on innocent and helpless people of every faith wherever and whenever they can. While this sad state of affairs is not something I share lightly, it does reinforce to me the importance of sacrifices being made for the greater good. Leaving my wife and daughter to deploy is without question the most emotionally difficult thing I've ever done, but it is a sacrifice made substantially easier when I weigh it against the small contribution I might make, God willing, towards improving the lives of those currently living without hope.

One of the spiritual exercises I am engaging in while deployed is reading the Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen's "Wartime Prayer Book". Written in 1943 while Allied forces prepared for the liberation of Europe from the crushing heel of Axis occupation, I've found the lessons and spiritual guidance of Archbishop Sheen as fruitful today as I'm sure the Christian warriors of the greatest generation did. As Knights, we are called to "sacrifice" constantly for the betterment of our communities, and as I continue to reflect on this theme, I would like to leave you all with one of the passages I've found most comforting and encouraging for the mission I now finally am beginning - I feel it is as applicable to my military mission as it is to our mission as Knights:

"I shall make any sacrifices to which my country may call me - serve at the front, buy bonds, labor long hours in factory or home, accept inconveniences - in reparations for my sins. There is a thrill in paying off a debt, and we are all in debt to God! 'Forgive us our trespasses,' that is, our debts. The thief crucified on the right hand of our Lord offered his cross in reparation for his sins; 'And we indeed justly; for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.' In one day he blotted out his sins: 'Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise'. I will sacrifice and suffer gladly that, through the example of my patience, others may come to know something of the blessedness of having found God. We live in a universe where the good or evil that one does has social repercussions. A stone thrown into the ocean affects even the most distant shore. Doctors graft skin from the body to the face when it is burned; they transfuse blood from one member of society to another. Now, if it is possible to graft skin, why is it not possible to graft prayer; if it is possible to transfuse blood, why is it not possible to transfuse sacrifice? The sacrifices I make can therefore be applied to others: to a friend in battle; to a wife back home; to a brother who has been away from the sacraments for years; to a sister who has a bad marriage; to little children, that they may grow up as worthy children of God; and above all for the peace of the world."

Thank you for all the kind words of support and prayers - they mean so very much to me and my family. I hope to write an update every month to share, so until the next newsletter, I pray that God may bless you all and your important sacrificial mission to our beloved Church and community. – Nick Kehtel, Special Operations Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve



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Upcoming Events

Below is a list of the upcoming KC events for November and December. Call John Short 612-281-6215 or email jwsshort@gmail.com if questions or to volunteer for an upcoming event.

- [Catholic Man Study Group](#) – 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm St Joes Parish Center
- Exemplification – November 15th 7:00 pm - 1st – 3rd Degree new 25 min ceremony
- Turkey and Fixings Thanksgiving Meals – Nov 19th - volunteers for logistics in the morning
- Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest – Nov 28 – Dec 16th – Contact Bruce Richards
- Knights Christmas Party – Dec 20th 6:00 pm – Contact Ken Gerding 952-442-4357 to register

Grand Knight Corner – We are Grateful

“What are we grateful for?” we can ask this of ourselves or someone else to inspire thoughts of gratitude or being thankful for what we have. The Knights are grateful for our families, parish, and community and the work we do together to build a bridge to faith. We’re grateful for all the prayers, the time of volunteers supporting our many programs, and the faith we build together serving those in need and most vulnerable. We are grateful for the response to our [Church Drive](#) and the men of faith that have recently joined our fraternity. We’re grateful for the wonderful partnership we have with our churches, aligned in our mission to know, love, and serve the Lord. Thank you all for what you do and have a blessed Thanksgiving.

John Short – Grand Knight

2021-2022 Officers

Chaplain.....Father Stan Mader 952-442-2384
 Grand Knight.....John Short 612-281-6215
 Deputy Grand Knight..... Chuck Walerius 952-270-4706
 Chancellor.....Charlie Loegering 612-670-2752
 Recording Secretary.....Joe Eiden 612-751-2924
 Financial Secretary.....Mark Larsen 952-412-8347
 Treasurer.....Open
 Lecturer.....Deacon Greg Miller 914-843-7973
 Advocate.....Jake Grassel 763-443-2589
 Warden.....Chris Carson 515-554-0919
 Inside Guard.....Rob Christenson 763-232-0571
 Outside Guard.....Nate Matousek 612-875-2986
 3 Year Trustee.....Adam Hughes 612-419-3718
 2 Year Trustee.....Kurt Siebert 952-250-0201
 1 Year Trustee.....Fred Bleedorn 913-220-4667

Committees

Program Director... Chuck Walerius 952-270-4706
 Life.....Charlie Loegering 612-670-2752
 Community.....Adam Hughes 612-419-3718
 Faith.....Nick Kehtel 218-393-2805
 Family.....Chris Carson 515-988-8888
 Membership.....Charlie Loegering 612-670-2752
 Church Liaison.....James Vettel 612-619-7741
 Communications.....John Short 612-281-6215

KLEIN DRIVE PARK

Available to rent May 1st through Oct 1st
 - Shelter - Electricity - Soft Ball Field
 - Volleyball - Bathrooms - Full Kitchen
 Rental Contact: Adam Hughes 612-419-3718
 Winter boat storage: Roger Buesgens 952-442-2527