



Knights In Action

Council 2506 Waconia, MN

April 2023

KC Fish Fry's – Thank You!!

A BIG THANK YOU to all the Knights, family members, parishioners, and community members that helped with the Fish Frys. Serving nearly 4,000 guests over six weeks during Lent. The collective hard work with our partners will be benefiting many KC programs, St Joseph Catholic Community, Auburn Home Services, St Bernard Church, and 4th Degrees. Thank you again to ALL for making the Fish Fry's a successful and blessed event this year. See all photos at this link [2023 Fish Fry Photos](#).



Faith, Family, & Baseball - Al Newman MN Twins – April 30th 11:30 am

Former MN Twins, Al Newman, and 1987 and 1991 World Series Champion will be speaking at the KC “Faith, Family, and Baseball” luncheon on Sunday, April 30th at 11:30 am at St Joseph STEM School. Hear Al share stories of his championship career and how his faith has guided him through life. Hot dogs, chips, beans, popcorn, and ice cream will be served. **Reserve your tickets at this [link](#).** To help with serving food sign up at this [link](#).



Tootsie Roll Drive April 15-16 – Helping God’s Special Children

The Knights are holding the annual “Tootsie Roll Drive” on April 15-16 raising money for the Special Olympics and people with intellectual disabilities. Please help make this a successful event by donating and helping with giving out Tootsie Rolls. If you aren’t able to make this event and still would like to help God's special children, please go online to make a donation at <https://www.waconiaknights2506.org/donations.php>. Thank you for your support of the Special Olympics and the Knights of Columbus. Contact Adam Hughes 612-419-3718.

Next KC Meeting

Our next Officer meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 18th 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 Ceremony will be held for New Members & First Degree Knights. Snacks and beverages will be served along with shared fraternity from our brother Knights. See you then!



Knight of the Month – New St Victoria KC Roundtable

Our Knight of the Month has been with the Waconia Knights for a little over a year and has jumped in to become our parish liaison to St Victoria and St Bernard. But he didn't stop there, he had a vision to bring his fellow Knights together at his home parish at St. Victoria to fill local needs of the parish through a KC Roundtable. With his leadership and support from Father Bob, the St Vitoria KC Roundtable was launched this month and now provides the opportunity for brother Knights of Council 2506 to support their parish in St Victoria with new and existing programs at the church. A big thank you to James Vettel, our "Knight of the Month", for starting the St Victoria Roundtable and for your leadership with the Knights.

Brothers and Brews – April 12 7:00 pm Waconia Brewery

Please join us on Wednesday, April 12th for our next "Brothers & Brews" at the Waconia Brewery from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm as we celebrate the conclusion of this year's Fish Fry's and the Catholic Man study. If you are a part of the Catholic Man Group, a Knight, interested in becoming a Knight, just like the Knights, or just like beer or root beer, this gathering is for YOU! The first one is on the Knights! All are welcome!

KC Exemplification – April 18th 7:00 pm Parish Center

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 30 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 ceremony is on Tuesday, April 18th at 7:00 PM at the St Joseph Parish Center.

Knights Sponsoring Novena for Life – May 6th – May 14th

The Waconia Knights are leading a pro-life program called Novena for Life. A novena is a period of sustained prayer over nine days for a particular intention. Community members are encouraged to pray in their homes on each of the nine days of the novena. The intention of this novena is especially for legislation in favor of Life and ending the tragic practice of abortion.

The novena will begin with a Mass at St Joseph Catholic Church on May 6, 2023, at 5:15 pm and end on May 16, 2023 at 10:30 am Mass at St Joseph Church. These prayers will be said at every Mass. The Novena will end on Mother's Day, May 16th. The St Joseph Mother's Day Masses will also have the "Rite for the Blessing of a Child in the womb" for all expectant mothers.

Knights Scholarship – Open for Applications - Due June 1st

The Waconia Knights of Columbus is accepting applications from those students entering their freshman year of college in 2023 and whose father or grandfather is a member in good standing in council 2506. To apply, students must complete the Knights of Columbus Council



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2506 Application for College Tuition Scholarship by June 1. The application is available online at the Waconia Knights website www.waconiaknights.org or can be picked up in the St Joseph STEM School office. Please submit completed applications by email to waconiaknights@gmail.com. The Knights believe that service in the parish and community are very important in shaping Christian values and will be a key element of successful applicants.

Archdiocesan Rural Life Sunday, June 25th 1:30 pm Mass

Save the date for the Archdiocesan Rural Life Sunday Mass to be hosted by Tim & Amy Leonard Family Farm. Address: 13315 106th St. Norwood Young America, MN 55397. Host parish: St. Joseph Catholic Community Waconia, MN. The Knights will be helping with food serving, parking, and cleanup. More information and volunteer opportunities coming out next month.

Knights Supreme - Member Satisfaction Study

Knights of Columbus has partnered with one of the country's premier Catholic research firms, the Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI), to undertake a multi-year study of overall member satisfaction and experience with the Order. Specifically, the Knights want to know about how membership in the Order aligns to their personal spiritual and financial journey. On March 30, the first phase of the study will begin by way of a questionnaire that will be emailed directly to members. The questionnaire will remain open until April 30. Please use this [LINK](#) for the survey.

KC 100 Year Anniversary Shirts Are In!

The KC 100 Year anniversary polo shirts are in. If you ordered one you can pick it up at our next meeting on April 18th. If you want to arrange to pick up your shirt or would like to get a shirt, please send an email to waconiaknights@gmail.com or contact John Short at 612-281-6215. These shirts can be worn to show your support for the KCs at upcoming KC events.

Upcoming Events

Below is a list of the upcoming KC events in April - June. See final details for these events in upcoming newsletters and on the Waconia Knights website.

Brothers & Brews – Wednesday, April 12th 7 pm, contact John Short 612-281-6215

Tootsie Roll Drive – April 15 - 16th, contact Adam Hughes 612-419-3718

Faith, Family, Baseball – April 30th Al Newman, contact John Short 612-281-6215

Opening Klein Drive Park – May 6th 8:00 am, contact Adam Hughes 612-419-3718

Novena for Life – May 6th, contact Charlie Loegering 612-670-2752

Election of Officers – May 16th 7:00 pm Klein Drive Park

KC Scholarship Applications Due – June 1st contact Chuck Walerius 952-270-4706

Consecration to the Holy Family – June 10th – 18th, contact Rob Christenson 763-232-0571

Installation of Officers – June 20th 7:00 pm Klein Drive Park

Archdiocesan Rural Life Sunday Mass – June 25th 1:30 pm, Leonard Family Farm



Waconia Knight - Serving Our Country Overseas

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

Hello to my brother Knights! I am writing to you this month on Easter Sunday; Christ is risen - Alleluia, Alleluia! I've had a wonderful Holy Week here in Jordan. Thanks to having a Chaplain Priest close by, I was able to attend Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil services over the past few days. I was truly blessed to have the opportunity to fully celebrate the Paschal Triduum. The new Priest here is an Army Reserve Chaplain from the Diocese of Charleston, and is originally from Poland. He's made the entire Lenten observance and Easter celebration one for great reflection, penitence, and reverence, all for which I am most grateful.

As you may have seen in the news, it's been a busy past few weeks here in the Middle East. I'm sad to report that the contractor who was tragically killed in the Iranian-backed militia strike in northern Syria was working at a base which our Task Force operates out of. The evening of that incident I was in our Joint Operations Center all night working through our battle drills and managing information flow from the ground units up to our higher headquarters. Even with all our technology and surveillance capability, it gave me new meaning to the phrase "fog of war" with how chaotic and inaccurate information reporting in a combat situation can be. With their strikes and our counterstrikes over the course of several nights, that week was without question the most exhausting and intense my time here in the Joint Headquarters has been. I remain in awe of the capability of our Special Forces personnel operating in the field, the professionalism of the people I work with in the headquarters, and I ask that you keep us all in your prayers as we work through this uptick in violence and threats to US and coalition personnel.

This being the month of Ramadan for Muslims has meant that our off-base activities have been limited. While Jordan's government and its people have shown themselves to be very tolerant and welcoming, they still observe fairly strict rules for everyone in the country during Ramadan – whether Muslim or not. Anyone seen in public eating, drinking (even water), smoking, chewing gum, or in non-conservative clothing could be subject to a large fine and up to 30 days in jail. Of course, on our military bases we are able to continue on our normal lives, but Ramadan has meant that many of the cultural/historical site excursions I've been fortunate enough to go on have been put on hiatus until the Islamic holy month is over. I will say that I have been impressed with the dedication of our Muslim brothers and sisters in their daily fasting. I know it sometimes can seem hard to just remember to not eat meat on Fridays during Lent, but imagine needing to go a month with only eating and drinking anything before sunrise or after sunset? As with everything, God works in mysterious ways to teach us lessons and help us to reflect on our own devotion to him – the example of our Muslim hosts here frequently made me think on how I might better commit myself to fasting, abstinence, and overall personal sacrifices during the Lenten season as a Christian.

I am excited for all the wonderful events our Council has upcoming. I pray for your continued success in serving our Parish and community. I know that the 100 Year Anniversary celebration



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planning is well underway and I am looking forward to attending that with you all to mark the dedication of those built our Council into what it is today. May God bless all that you do, and I thank you all for your continued prayers and support to me and my family. Until next month, may you and your families rejoice in this Easter celebration – truly he is risen! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Financial Secretary – Opportunity for Growth

The Knights have an opportunity for members who want to bring their skills forward to help our council with a key role – Financial Secretary. This position is critical to the success of our organization and needs to be filled. Please review the description of this role at this [link](#) and reach out to John Short jwsshort@gmail.com or 612-281-6215 if you have any questions or would like to help with this position.

Grand Knight Corner – A Lot Happening

Sorry for the long newsletter this month but there’s a lot happening with the Knights. This spring we’re hosting several events (Brothers and Brews, Tootsie Roll Drive, Family, Faith & Baseball – Al Newman and more!!). The Knights are very active and have been blessed with new and existing members that have taken an active role in our council. There are many opportunities to serve, pray, and celebrate together. I hope you can join us on April 18th for the Exemplification and then for Family, Faith and Baseball on April 30th. Thank you for all that you do to support our council for Charity, Unity, and Fraternity.

John Short, Grand Knight

2021-2022 Officers

Chaplain.....Father Stan Mader 952-442-2384
 Grand Knight.....John Short 612-281-6215
 Deputy Grand Knight.....Open
 Chancellor.....Fred Bleedorn 913-220-4667
 Recording Secretary.....Joe Eiden 612-751-2924
 Financial Secretary.....Mark Larsen 952-412-8347
 Treasurer.....Chuck Walerius 952-270-4706
 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.....Ken Gerding 952-442-4357

Committees

Parish Liaison.....Adam Hughes 612-419-3718
 Communications.....John Short 612-281-6215
 Life.....Charlie Loegering 612-670-2752
 Community.....Adam Hughes 612-419-3718
 Faith.....John Short 612-281-6215
 Family.....Chris Carson 515-988-8888
 Membership.....Ken Gerding 952-442-4357
 Member Retention..... 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