



# Knights In Action

Council 2506 Waconia, MN

February 2023

## Respect Life Breakfast

The Waconia Knights/Trinity Lutheran annual Respect Life Breakfast was held at Trinity Lutheran on Sunday, January 22nd at Trinity Lutheran Church in Waconia. The Waconia Knights provided all of the food prep serving its exclusive breakfast sausage along with Eggs, French Toast & Pancakes. The breakfast served 425 people and received donations of \$5,200, netting \$3,600 to be provided to women and children causes. Thanks to all that helped to make this years event another success!



## KC Free Throw Contest

The Waconia Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship was held on Sunday, January 15th for boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 14 at the St. Joseph Catholic STEM School. This annual event encourages the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. Thanks to Trent Klein and the volunteers that support our youth. Congratulations to this year's winners!

## Fish Frys Starting - All Hands on Deck!

The Fish Fry is our largest fund raiser starting the first Friday of Lent serving the entire community. The KC Fish Fry provides a non-meat option for the community committed to fasting during Lent, brings the parish together outside of Sunday gatherings, and raises money for causes close to the hearts of our local Council. **Please signup to help today at this [link](#) or contact Chuck Walerius at [cwalerius@mediacombb.net](mailto:cwalerius@mediacombb.net) or 952-270-4706.**

## 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 February 21<sup>st</sup>. 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](mailto:waconiaknights@gmail.com) or contact John Short at 612-281-6215. These shirts can be worn to show your support for the KCs at the upcoming Fish Frys and other KC events throughout the year.

## Next KC Meeting

Our next Officer meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 21st at 6:00 pm followed by the General Member Meeting at 7:00 pm at St Joes Parish Center in the church lower level. We'll be having a Fraternal Benefits Watch Party with pizza and beverages sponsored by our Knights of Columbus insurance agents. See you then!



# Knights In Action

Council 2506 Waconia, MN

February 2023

## Knights of the Month

Our Knight of the Month has been active in youth sports in our community for many years as a player and coach. He participated in the KC Free Throw contest as a young man and now he leads the KC Free throw contest for our council, helps coordinate the District Free Throw contest, and leads the KC Soccer Challenge for our Council. He's also very involved with maintaining the ball field at Klein Drive Park. A big thank you to Trent Klein, our "Knight of the Month" for leading our youth programs and developing future leaders in our community.

## Upcoming Events

Below is a list of the upcoming KC events. See final details for these events in upcoming newsletters.

**The Catholic Man** – Second Wednesday of ea month 7:30 Parish Center – **All welcome!**

**Fraternal Benefits Seminar "Watch Party"** – Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> 7:00 pm Parish Center

**Fish Fry** – Friday, February 22nd – Friday, March 31st, contact Chuck Walerius 952-270-4706

## Financial Secretary and Treasurer – Opportunities for Growth

The Knights have an opportunity for members who want to bring their skills forward to help our council with two key roles – Financial Secretary and Treasurer. These positions are critical to the success of our organization and need to be filled. Please review the description of these two roles at this [link](#) and reach out to John Short [jwsshort@gmail.com](mailto:jwsshort@gmail.com) or 612-281-6215 if you have any questions or would like to help with either of these positions.

## Waconia Knight - Serving Our Country Overseas

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

Greetings to all of my brother Knights! I hope things are going well for all of you and your families. It was great to read about the Respect Life breakfast and the success had there, and I am wishing you luck with the Faith-In-Action Blood Drive and the Fish Fry's beginning later this month. I want to especially thank our council for the generous care package you all sent! There was great appreciation from not just me, but my whole team for the coffee and food-items! The little comforts from home can make all the difference sometimes, and certainly offer a nice change from our normal dining facility food.

January was a good month here. We've been busy with efforts in Iraq and Syria to continue the fight against ISIS/Daesh. It seems not a day goes by where there isn't some strike or raid by either the US or our Coalition partners against ISIS, and there is constantly a threat by Iranian-sponsored terrorist networks towards US and partner forces throughout the Levant. While I am fortunate to be assigned to a headquarters unit in a mostly stable and safe country such as Jordan, we don't take for granted that the Special Operations personnel we support are in harms way on a daily basis and that it can sometimes be where things feel safest that you are



# *Knights In Action*

Council 2506 Waconia, MN

February 2023

the most vulnerable. I ask that you keep the safety of our military personnel here in your prayers.

I had the opportunity earlier in January to go on a sacred sites trip which our chaplain organizes. There were about 25 of us from the team who participated, and we visited Bethany Beyond the Jordan, the site of Jesus's Baptism on the Jordan River, and Mt. Nebo, from whose summit Moses viewed the Promised Land at the end of his life.

Bethany Beyond the Jordan was a wonderful spiritual experience. The remains of an early Byzantine-era church built along the then path of the river mark site where early Christians understood the site of the baptism to have occurred. Time and erosion have led to the river in modern times flowing several hundred meters from the original site of the baptism, but there remains a small amount of pooling water at the original site along the historical river. Having just this past year celebrated my daughter's own baptism at St. Joseph's, the spiritual and sacramental connection of this visit was profound.

Mt. Nebo was about a 35-minute drive away from the baptism site and about a 4,000ft ascent from the Jordan river. The climb up the terrain was beautiful. Mt. Nebo has been the site of a Byzantine-era church from the 4th century, and the modern site is under the care of a group of Franciscan friars as a part of the Custody of the Holy Land. The summit is serene, with beautiful views of the surrounding countryside and a clear view of Israel. The modern church built by the Franciscans was recently completed and incorporates the archeological remains of the historical church, including the pillars, altars, and mosaics. The grounds offered a wonderful opportunity to walk around in meditation and prayer.

About a week after my visit to the two sacred sites, I had the opportunity to attend a Melkite Greek Catholic mass celebrated by a local Melkite Catholic priest. As one of the Eastern Catholic Churches in full Communion with the Holy See, the Melkite Greek Catholic Church has a large presence in the Levant, especially in Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan. It was a wonderful experience to participate in a different expression of our universal faith, and the Byzantine Rite of the mass, with its liturgical reverence and embrace of the more mystical aspects of our faith, was a welcome blessing.

Each day here brings me new experiences and connection with new people and cultures – whether from our Jordanian hosts, our Coalition partners, or the US military personnel from across our country. But each day also brings me closer to home, and being back with my wife and daughter is without question the day I am most looking forward to. I will continue to pray for all the efforts of the Knights, and I look forward to hearing more soon about all of the great activities you have dedicated yourselves and your time to. God bless you all!

– Nick Kehtel, Special Operations Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve



# Knights In Action

Council 2506 Waconia, MN

February 2023

## Grand Knight Corner – New Cor Meetings

There is a new a new faith-based initiative of the Supreme Council called [“Cor Meetings”](#) designed to form and strengthen Knights and the Catholic men of the parish in faith and virtue. Each Cor Meeting does this by strengthening relationships with Jesus Christ and one another, through the three Key Elements of Prayer, Formation, and Fraternity. The word 'cor' is Latin for heart and the root of the word courage. Prayer, Formation, and Fraternity all begin with the heart and direct the heart in relationship to God and each other in true charity. [The Waconia Knights Catholic Man program](#) is now part of the Cor Meetings. The goals of each Cor Meeting is (are) to provide the opportunity for Catholic men: to encounter Christ; to strengthen their bonds of brotherhood; to share their faith, as brothers; and bring souls to Jesus Christ. Every council is invited to hold a Cor Meeting at least monthly, in addition to the monthly council meeting. Please join us at our Cor Meetings (The Catholic Man) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:30 in the Parish Center to strengthen your faith and become a disciple of Jesus.

God Bless,

John Short – Grand Knight

---

### 2022-2023 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.....Open  
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

---