



Knights In Action

Council 2506 Waconia, MN

December 2022

“Turkey & Fixings” Helping Hands

The Knights provided helping hands for the Thanksgiving “Turkey & Fixings” meal hosted at St. Joseph Church and coordinated by Love INC along with several local churches in in Waconia. [The Knights were side by side with over 30 families](#) from local churches who collected and delivered food with compassion to 79 families throughout our community. Thank you to everyone who played a part in coordinating and delivering meals to so many of our neighbors.



Welcome New Knights!

The Waconia Knights would like to welcome our new members from the first half of our fraternal year. Please welcome Dale Willenbring, Matt Turek, Ryan Loegering, Matthew Leroy, Josh Bovee, Travis Radel, Brian Beste, Dave Binotto, John Schepers, Verne Betlach, Curt Heldt, Jim Lohan, Ted Sinnen, Bill Arockiasamy, and Terrence Binstock. We are blessed to have you join us to grow our faith, lead our families and serve our parish and community. Also, congratulations to the new Third Degrees that went through the Exemplification on Tuesday, November 15th.



Christmas Party and Meeting

Our next general meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 20th at 5:30 pm followed by the Christmas Party Social at 6:00 pm and dinner at 7:00 pm at St Joes Parish Center in the church lower level. **Please contact Ken Gerding today at 952-442-4357 or kathygerding5@gmail.com to register for the Christmas Party.** Free will donation for the dinner will go to the Enkrateia House of Hope. See flyer for more details.





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Knights of the Month a New Member

Becoming a Knight means leading with faith, protecting our families, serving those in need, and growing our fraternity. Getting started quickly by helping those in need is what many of our new Knights did recently with helping hands over Thanksgiving. Our Knight of the Month was right there asking how he could help out and loaded Thanksgiving Turkeys for delivery to our neighbors. But it didn't stop there. He inspired his father-in-law, Curt Heldt, to join the Knights as well. A big thank you to Matthew Leroy, our Knight of the Month, for jumping in and helping the Knights serve others in our community and supporting the growth of our fraternity.

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.



Gifts for Troops

Knights in partnership with the Masonic Lodge and Lions Club supported "Gifts for the Troops" again this year by filling and delivering packages to soldiers overseas. The Knights donated \$500 to support this program for the troops that serve all of us. The packages contained candy, small gifts, and lots of joy. Thanks to all who serve our country.

Upcoming Events

Below is a list of the upcoming KC events for December and January. Call John Short 612-281-6215 or email jwshort@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
- Knights Christmas Party – Dec 20th 5:30 pm – Contact Ken Gerding 952-442-4357 to register
- Knights Free Throw Contest – January 15th 6:00 pm – Contact Trent Klein 952-201-1107
- Pro Life Breakfast – Sunday, January 22nd, contact Charlie Loegering 612-670-2752



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Waconia Knight - Serving Our Country Overseas

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

Happy Advent Season to all my brother Knights. I continue to keep your efforts in my prayers, especially as we approach the wonderful celebration of Christmas and everything good and hope-filled that it provides.

I've been busy these past four weeks since arriving briefly in Kuwait and then Jordan. The nature of the task force I have deployed in support of, the **Combined Special Operations Joint Task Force – Levant**, is not only “joint” in that it incorporates service personnel from all US military branches, including the recently commissioned Space Force, but it is also “combined”, in that it is a coalition operation with many of our closest allies imbedded with and holding key roles across the organization. Shortly after I arrived in Jordan, I was able to participate in a Remembrance Day ceremony organized by the British and Canadian service personnel on what was our American Veteran’s Day. It was a somber and emotional tribute, with Remembrance Day in Commonwealth nations being more similar to our Memorial Day. The emotional weight of the ceremony was especially poignant given the nature of the environment in which we found ourselves honoring the holiday. In addition to the British and Canadian partners, I’ve had the opportunity thus far to work with Italian, French, Spanish, and Norwegian coalition members as we coordinate efforts to fully extinguish ISIS from its pockets of support in the Levant region – mainly Syria and Northern Iraq. The coalition environment has made the FIFA World Cup an especially fun event to experience with our soccer-obsessed allies, and the good-natured prodding over our respective national team’s performances has been a source of great entertainment.



I've been fortunate to have access to weekly Sunday Mass while here so far. A US Air Force chaplain priest travels around to a number of installations on Sundays offering Mass and Reconciliation for the Catholic service members, for which I have been extremely thankful. And thankfulness has been the thing on my mind a lot these days – not just because of Thanksgiving (although I'm sure that contributed), but also because of the daily acknowledgement and display of multi-national goodwill and brotherhood experienced here in service against a common foe. We share with our coalition partners many blessings in our countries, and while imperfect and increasingly secular in their outlook, that does not take away from the fact that there remains much to be grateful for, especially in comparison to the tragic circumstances many in this part of the world find themselves subjected to regularly. I'm most especially thankful to be entering the Christmas season – a celebration which brings so much hope to our hearts as we reflect upon the gift God gave the world in sending his son to be on Earth with us. Our Jordanian hosts who work on the base doing facility and food services were kind enough to setup a large Christmas Tree and some other decorations a few days after Thanksgiving – the



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act of graciousness for our Muslim hosts to help us in celebrating a Christian holiday is not lost on me, and the overall hospitality and efforts of the Jordanians here has been nothing short of exemplary. It is on these themes of nationality and hope with which I will leave you with another passage from Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen's "Wartime Prayer Book", which I continue to turn to for daily spiritual encouragement:

“God is not a tribal God; He is not the God of any one nation or people, but the God and Father of all, who made men of one blood to dwell upon the Earth. Through a prayerful contemplation of this war we will see not soldiers of different nations in combat, but one great family, quarreling, fighting, wounding, and all in need of the peace and charity of Christ which we hope to obtain by our supplications.”

Until next month, I wish you all the glad tidings of this season as you continue your critical work to live out the truth found in Christian hope within our parish and community as Knights. Merry Christmas! – Nick Kehtel, Special Operations Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve

Grand Knight Corner – Keep Christ in Christmas

Keep Christ in Christmas is a reminder that the season is about more than Santa Claus and presents. Sharing the true meaning of Christmas with friends and family through celebrations and engaging in dialogue that honor his birth brings joy and the true meaning of Christmas. Shine the light of Christmas in your homes, schools, parish and community through faithful acts and kindness. Wishing everyone a peaceful and joyful Christmas by Keeping Christ in Christmas.

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.....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