

KNIGHT'S COMPASS

Direction for Life in Faith



February/March 2022

Solomon Juneau Council 2770

Vol 2 Issue 6

Christ's Compass—The Season of Growth

There is no season of the Church year that offers more opportunity for spiritual growth than the season of Lent. That's because it requires a disciplined determination to fast, offer penance, along with almsgiving and sacrifice.

For the season of Lent to best position you, and I, for growth requires preparation and forethought to what we want to experience. It's all too easy to say, I'll give up a certain food I like, or abstain from meat and fast on the Fridays of Lent. These however are normal experiences.

They are certainly good as far as they go. Growth does not come from merely doing what you are required to do or what you do each and every Lenten season. Growth comes from going beyond the normal practices of the Lenten season.

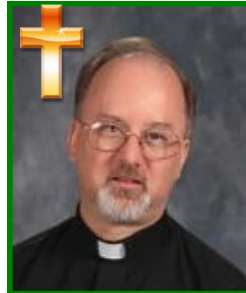
Look to added spiritual practices, making time for these activities and have an increased daily prayer life. Set your mind on what added prayers you will do. If you normally attend Mass on Sundays, add a day during the week. We have 8am daily Masses (Wed, Thur, Fri), and there is a 5:30pm Mass on Tuesdays to help those whose work schedule does not allow them to make an 8am Mass. Join the parish for the Friday evening Stations of the Cross at 6 pm followed by a soup dinner. We have a prayer service on Wednesday evenings at 8 pm in the Church. We also have a parish mission taking place March 28th to the 30th. The weekly Bulletin lists many ideas for prayer.

Need some other ideas? Let myself or Fr. Cryton know you'd like some ideas. Our office phone and parish email address is published on the first page of the Bulletin.

Christ's blessing upon you as we all approach the season of Lent; that you will experience the fruits of growth during the devout season leading to the Resurrection of Christ on Easter Morning.

Fr. John

Pastor & Council Chaplain



*May Christ be the compass for
your Lenten Journey!*

**The next council meeting is
Tuesday March 15th
at 7 pm in Reardon Hall
(officer/Director meeting 6:30 pm)**

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NEXT ISSUE: April/May 2022

**The full newsletter is on Knights web page
on the parish web site:**

<https://stpatricksmauston.com/parish/knights-of-columbus/>

Council Compass— See the Benefits

Steve Hesprich, Grand Knight

Brother Knights, families, and friends,

There are two sides to the benefits of membership in the Knights of Columbus—what the Knights can do for you and your family— and what you can do to help others and yourself.

It doesn't take great perception to see what is going on in our society. It is losing the sense of the foundational importance of families, and it is increasingly marginalizing people of faith.

Catholics are particularly being targeted. Here's the interesting thing which brings these attacks into an historical perspective. In the 1870s Irish Catholics, many of whom were relatively recent immigrants to the United States, were heavily persecuted. They got the worst and most dangerous jobs. They were segregated for their religious beliefs, and families were often split apart when the breadwinner of the family, almost always the husband, died in the dangerous and unhealthy work places. Since



Steps to Join the Knights for 1st Year FREE (Until June 30, 2022):

1. Go to www.kofc.org/joinus
2. Complete application, (5 minutes)
enter council # 2770, & promo code **MCGIVNEY2020**
3. Attend online virtual ceremony

those Irish Catholic families were large, and the widow had no financial recourse, the children were sent to orphanages and if the children were adopted, they went to different families. It was for these reasons that Fr.

Michael McGivney, now Blessed McGivney, established the Knights of Columbus. And it is the reason the Knights creation included providing insurance to member families.

In the information session described below you will have reason to see these same issues have arisen in today's society. Families are destroyed by loss of a husband (albeit more because of family abandonment or divorce), and our faith is certainly under constant attack as well. The answers provided by the Knights of Columbus is every bit as relevant today as when the Knights were established 140 years ago. The Knights of Columbus protect and build up family faith and values. In so doing they help build up the Church.

For me, the reason I joined and continually find value, is the friendships forged. The evidence of the value of Knights, what they stand for as Catholic men supporting the Church, its priests and religious, why so many men become lifetime members.

My reasons for remaining a Knight have deepened as I came to see the two sides of membership: what they have done for family, and the great joy of helping others. Help the world become a better place for families and faith by joining us. We look forward to seeing you on February 28th.

Vivat Jesu!

Steve Grand Knight; cell/text: 608-400-2638
Steve@Hesprich.com



Nowak Agency WI & UP Fraternal Benefit Night

You're Invited to a Virtual Zoom Fraternal Benefit Night

Learn how the Knights of Columbus can benefit your family,
and how your family can help others.

Our guest speakers are Supreme Training Director
Jon Olson, and General Agent Tim Nowak who oversees all
Knights Insurance products for Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula

Join us in Reardon Hall on Monday February 28th.

The seminar begins at 7pm.

We ask you to arrive by 6:45 pm

To watch at home instead, register:

<https://www.kofcwi.org/Live-Events>



Jon Olson



Tim Nowak

Council Free Throw Champions

By Jon Field and Randy Boehm, Co-Chairs

There were 25-28 excited children competing for our council's annual Free Throw Contest for boys and girls 9-14 years old. The competition held in the St. Patrick School gym, took place on Sunday January 23, 2022. We had competitors in 11 of the 12 categories (each age for both boys and girls).



Here are this year's winners who go on to compete at the District 20 competition:

| Name (boys) | Age | Name (girls) |
|---------------|--------|----------------|
| Jaden Steinke | 9 yrs | Peyton Czys |
| Nolan Klapps | 10 yrs | Bralyn Heller |
| Jace Navis | 11 yrs | Addison Tousen |
| Evan Seagren | 12 yrs | Hannah Hersil |
| Jonah West | 13 yrs | Breanna Heller |
| Cody Komiskey | 14 yrs | |

The winners of the council competition will go on to compete at the district level. That contest will also take place at the St. Patrick School gym. The date is Sunday February 27, 2022. Registration begins at

noon with the competition beginning at 1pm. Winners at the district will go on to compete against children from all over the Diocese of La Crosse who have won their district competitions. That date is tentatively scheduled for Sunday April 24th.



A few of the competitors

Competitions like this don't happen without support from members of the Knights. We thank all those who helped with registration, scoring and helping with ball returns to the competitors after each throw.

Seminarians—The Future of the Church

Taken from the Supreme Program Manual

One of the long standing programs of the Knights is the RSVP—Refund Support Vocation Program.

As the strong right arm of the church, the Knights of Columbus are committed to providing moral, financial and spiritual support to our future priests and religious at all stages of their formation. Through this program, council and parish families will raise funds to support seminarians or religious in formation, in their area. For every \$500 given to an individual, the Supreme Council will refund the council or assembly \$100.



Jared Clements

Though financial support is vitally important, it is not the only aspect of the RSVP program. Councils are also called to provide their "adopted" seminarian or religious with moral support and prayers for their success.

At our January 2022 council meeting we approved a donation of \$500 to Jared Clements of the Diocese of La Crosse. Many of the parishioners may remember Jared when he served for a time at St. Patrick. He will be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate this Summer. Remember Jared in your prayers, especially on the 3rd and 17th of each month.

Breakfast of Champions

By Howard Boppert, Pancake Chairman

We've now completed 3 of our 4 annual pancake breakfasts, each one benefiting one of our 5th through 8th grade classes. We had our 3rd breakfast January 16th, 2022 that benefited our 6th grade class.

Our final breakfast will be on Sunday March 6th after the 8am and 10am Masses. This breakfast will be for the 5th grade class.

The hallmark of each breakfast is the students (and parents of those students) helping to serve the breakfast.



7th grade students helping at the December 19, 2021 Pancake breakfast

The families that attend the breakfast get a chance to visit

with others, and also to enjoy our young people learning the value, and yes the enjoyment, of serving.

Finally each grade that serves a breakfast receives the proceeds of the day that will go towards a class trip/event at the end of the school year. So we bring together the winning combination of service, a meal, good company and service lessons for our children. And good food! And that makes our breakfasts the breakfast of champions!



Pancake Master Bill Powers cranks out the pancakes with our council's very unique pancake maker (in the shape of a pancake no less!)

Affiliate Membership

Taken from the Supreme "Affiliate Member Initiative Guidebook"

The Affiliate Member Initiative (AMI)

recognizes that some members, who share our values and support our mission, are unable to remain active in their local councils. This may be due to poor health, financial stress, family problems, lack of transportation, medical concerns or many other reasons.

The AMI allows these men to be designated as Affiliate members and removed from their local council rosters. The Supreme and State Councils will then engage Affiliate members by keeping them informed of major initiatives and giving them opportunities for volunteer service and charitable contributions.

The net result is that local councils will be able to devote more time to volunteer service and more funds to charitable causes. Council leaders will be able to give greater attention to active members and prospects. The AMI clearly benefits members and councils alike.

The AMI guidebook contains the simple procedures that councils and district deputies must follow to submit lists of members recommended for designation as Affiliate members. Participating Financial Secretaries, Grand Knights, and District Deputies will be asked to complete a short survey after their lists have been processed by the Supreme Council. This important feedback will be instrumental to the Affiliate Member Initiative.

The pilot program has come to Wisconsin for the month of February and the Solomon Juneau council will be participating in the program.

Questions can be asked by email to affiliate@kofc.org or phone at (203) 752-4270.



Lots of Minutes

Minutes of recent council meetings

Recent issues of the newsletter have been bi-monthly so we have three council meeting minutes to present here,

December 21, 2021 Minutes

Chaplains Report: Children's Christmas Mass times given; read from Knights to Christ on the theme of charity - pray with confidence.

The Bank of Mauston thanked the council for their contribution to the Food Pantry which the bank matched. Free Throw contest is scheduled for January 23rd, 2022.

General fund was \$2,209.35, The Charity fund balance is \$2,837.02.

Raffle tickets for the council's Sportsman Raffle will be passed out and the drawing will take place at the April 19, 2022 council meeting at 7:30pm. Brandon Delota along with the two Pruess brothers became members so that now, along with Fr. Chinnappan joining means we've met our Star Council quota for membership this year.

A gross income of \$665 for the December pancake breakfast was realized, with net profits benefiting the 7th grade class at St. Pats. There's a new date for the February pancake breakfast of February 27th [subsequently changed to March 6th at a future council meeting].

January 23rd at 1pm is the Juneau County Right to Life March at the Courthouse. Tootsie Roll proceeds given to St. Pat's school for \$27.26. A check to Mauston Schools will be \$245 for disabled students. Remember Jerry Boehm in your prayers as well as Mary Jean Cauley and Randy Boehm's granddaughter.

Calling all Ushers—or would be Ushers

If you can help as an usher for Masses,
contact **Bill Powers c:608-547-9118 /**
BILLYBOY82@HOTMAIL.COM

January 18th Minutes

The meeting began at 7:04pm. The minutes from the December 21st meeting were read and approved with one correction to the gross proceeds of the December pancake breakfast for \$665.

Chaplain's report: Fr. John read the December 18th "Knights to Christ" entry. The theme was Patriotism—reverence for all life. Fr. John mentioned the RSVP program that supports seminarians. He suggested we support Jared Clements who spent several weeks in our parish during his earlier formation. All the seminarians that the parish has supported have become priests. The bishop just got out of the hospital with Covid, the second time he has had it. There will be a vocations dinner for boys at St. Pat's next month with Bishop Callahan and Fr. Kuhn who is the vocations director. This past November the parish had a vocations dinner for girls.

Grand Knight report: Rick Mills who built our pancake cooker wants to use it, which he does each year.

The Gala is February 19th.

Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity must be filed by January 31st. Passed copies of the survey and asked members to complete and return by meeting end.

Semiannual Audit must be submitted by February 15th. Treasurer: The general fund has \$2,666.48; The charity fund has a balance of \$2,837.02.

RSVP money comes out of the Charity fund.

Membership Report: Free online membership has been extended to June 30, 2022. Supreme is introducing a new membership category called "Affiliate" member. Will have more info at next meeting [see article on this page].

Reminder of Wednesday evening prayer service each week and That Man Is You (TMIY) each Friday morning on the second floor of Mile Bluff Hospital, 6:30am.

Ash Wednesday is March 2nd.

Family Report: Free Throw contest January 23rd, this weekend. Randy Boehm is chairman. We set a date of March 6th [subsequently changed to Feb 27th].

Community Report: Pancake breakfast went well.

Sportsman Raffle—need to reimburse Dick Schwab for two guns and a bow.

Motion was made and passed to donate \$500 to Jared Clements as part of the RSVP program.

Financial Secretary: Dues will be sent to members this upcoming week.

New Business: Steve Hesprich and Randy Boehm will be the delegates to the State Convention. It is being held at Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells. It is May 6-8 though the business all takes place on Saturday May 7th.

Matt Schwab introduced the idea of a "calendar raffle" proposed by Theresa Gunther. She wanted to involve the Knights.. It will be under consideration for timing and extent of time for the calendar to be covered by the raffle.

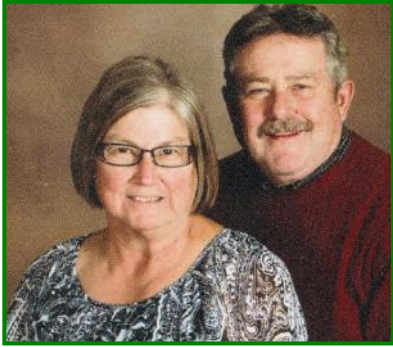
Good of the Order: Bishop's recovery from Covid; Randy's granddaughter Emma is out of the incubator but still in the hospital. Also for Kim Hesprich's back to get better.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Family Compass—Family of the Year

By Jon Field, Family Director

Dick and Natalie (Noble) Schwab are the Family of the Year for the Solomon Juneau Knights of Columbus. The Family of the Year is a Knights family that among all KC families of our council exemplify the values of the Knights and the practice of their faith and life in the parish.



These two devout Catholics have built a strong family and a strong business here in Mauston and we are proud to recognize them. Both Dick and Natalie grew up in Lancaster, WI. Dick grew up in a large Catholic family of nine kids. His dad worked at the Dubuque Packing Company. Dick attended school through the 8th grade at St

Clements Catholic School in Lancaster. Natalie grew up on the Noble Dairy Farm with one sister. Natalie's home farm in Lancaster has been in the Noble family for 112 years and will host the 2022 Grant Co Dairy Breakfast in June.

Dick and Natalie were high school sweethearts and both graduated in 1970 from Lancaster High School. Right out of school, Dick enrolled in the tool and die apprenticeship program at MATC. Right after he enrolled, he was drafted into the Army and served 6 years in the Wisconsin National Guard, serving in a maintenance unit stationed in Portage, Mauston and Tomah. During all this, he and Natalie continued dating. Natalie grew up Methodist but she took classes through the RCIA program and converted to Catholicism. The day after his active duty was up, Sept 22, 1973, they were married at St Clements.

Dick's first job was working at Del Tool in Baraboo during his apprenticeship. His boss was so impressed with him that he offered to go into business with him at a 2nd shop that they both opened in Mauston in 1978. This year, Natalie and Dick's son, Matt, was born. Three years into their partnership, in 1981, Dick and Natalie bought his partner out and Mauston Tool was born. Also that year, the Schwab's were blessed with a daughter, Laura. They raised their family in Mauston, where both kids attended St Pat's School. Dick and Natalie ran Mauston Tool Corporation until 2007. Presently their son Matt owns the family business. Laura Vinopal is an audiologist and owns Professional Hearing Care.

Matt and Dick are both very active in the Solomon Juneau council. They regularly attend and contribute to the council meetings. Both have been involved from the beginning to create the hunter raffle the council has conducted for this the third year. The Sportsman Raffle features three prizes, two rifles and a crossbow. This year they've added giving an option for \$500 to any of the raffle winners instead of the guns or bow. Matt and Dick help at liturgies often serving as ushers. Both are officers of the council.

Natalie and Dick help out a lot with activities around church. For many years they prepared the meat for St. Patrick's Day and the Fall Festival. For the past 19 years they have mowed and trimmed a large section at the cemetery. Presently Dick is on the cemetery committee.

Recently, Dick helped Carol Kaiser and others plan and build the beautiful columbarium at the cemetery. They helped with the KC Wild Game Feed. Natalie is a long-time member of the PCCW and one-time president. She currently helps St Pats school where her grandkids attend and works as a teacher's aide and helps out often at the cafeteria. Dick has been helping teach the associate pastors how to drive so they can get their drivers license.

The Schwabs are a wonderful, unassuming family that help out in so many ways at our church and school. They have worked hard during their careers and work just as hard in their retirement years. St Patricks is blessed to have them as members of our family!

The Compass of a Patriot

Steve Hesprih, PFN, PFC & 4th degree member of the Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly 1902 in Tomah

We haven't talked for a long time about the Patriotic degree of the Knights of Columbus. In our times of wokeness, and claims our country is not great (by some), the Knights declare "we are patriotic Catholics!". After becoming the Grand Knight of the Solomon Juneau council, I was incredulous to see that only 4 members out of 85 are fourth degree members of the Knights. This doesn't mean those 81 members are not patriots. It does mean we have reasons to encourage them to become 4th degree knights.

What does it mean to have patriotism as a compass of our national life? If you were a veteran, the answer is your experience of being a patriot if you proudly served. For me, never having been in the military, I was left a bit wanting before becoming a knight. I believe strongly in the traditional, faith based values our country, values strongly demonstrated throughout its history, albeit with a lot of flaws along the way. But I didn't have a really concrete way to express that patriotism. Sure I've done the pledge of allegiance throughout my life—at school and for sporting events. I didn't join the knights so I could be a member of the patriotic degree. However after becoming a Knight, I saw what the 4th degree represented and decided to join the 4th degree. I could tell you many great stories.

Many knew the 4th degree from the ceremonial clothing, called regalia. It definitely brought pomp and circumstance to an event. However there's much more than that. It's the patriotic perspective, it's the other patriotic activities, including interestingly enough, programs to support life. That brings me to an underappreciated aspect of the 4th degree.

There is one thing to make clear about the patriotic degree. It exists in each of the countries where the Knights of Columbus are found. So the patriotic degree is not explicitly about United States patriotism. More importantly, in the larger picture, it is about being true to the country to which you pledge allegiance. This is seen visibly at international conventions of the knights when 4th degree knights, in the ceremonial uniform of more recent times, are on display. You can't tell from the uniform which country is represented, but you know each man sees the value of their national heritage, and as knights those include values held by our common Catholic faith.

An exemplification is the ceremony where a man becomes a 4th degree Knight. To join, a knight must first be a 3rd degree member. Saturday, May 21st the 4th degree will take place in Eau Claire. We have one member at the moment planning to join the patriotic degree.

Are you ready to join the patriotic degree?

Let us set a record for Sir Knights joining our ranks and help a brother Knight complete the process.



Calendar (can also be found in different format on our council web page (link is in the footer of this page))

| DATE | TIME | EVENT | HOST | NOTES |
|--|----------------|---|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Wednesdays | 8:00 PM | Prayer Service | Parish | St. Patrick Church |
| Sunday February 27, 2022 | 1:00 PM | District 20 Free Throw Contest | KC2770 | at the St. Pat school gym |
| Monday Feb 28, 2022 | 7:00 PM | Benefits of the Knights of Columbus Watch Party | KC2770 | Reardon Hall |
| Wednesday March 2, 2022 | | Ash Wednesday | Parish | St. Patrick Church |
| Sunday March 4, 11, 18, 25 & April 1st | 6:00 PM | Stations of the Cross then Soup Dinner | Parish | Reardon Hall |
| Sunday March 6, 2022 | 8 AM -noon | Pancake Breakfast - benefit 5th grade class | KC2770 | Reardon Hall |
| Tuesday, March 15, 2022 | 6:30 PM | Officers Meeting Reardon Hall | KC2770 | Reardon Hall |
| Tuesday, March 15, 2022 | 7:00 PM | Council Meeting Reardon Hall | KC2770 | Reardon Hall |
| Tuesday, April 19, 2022 | 6:30 PM | Officers Meeting Reardon Hall | KC2770 | Reardon Hall |
| Tuesday, April 19, 2022 | 7:00 PM | Officers Meeting Reardon Hall Officer Nominations for 2022-2023 Fraternal Year | KC2770 | Reardon Hall |
| Tuesday, April 19, 2022 | 7:30PM | Drawing for Hunter's Raffle | KC2770 | Reardon Hall |
| Friday May 6, 2022 to Sunday | Weekend | KC State Convention | State | Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin |
| Tuesday, May 17, 2022 | 6:00 PM | CONFIRMATION - Bishop Callahan | Parish | St. Patrick Church |
| Tuesday, May 17, 2022 RESCHEDULE | 7:00 PM | Council Meeting Reardon Hall Officer Elections for 2022-2023 Fraternal Year | KC2770 | Reardon Hall |
| Saturday May 21, 2022 | TBD | 4th Degree Exemplification | West Dist | Eau Claire |
| Tuesday, June 21, 2022 | 7:00 PM | Council Meeting Reardon Hall | KC2770 | Reardon Hall |

Council Officers & Directors

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Steve Hesprich | Grand Knight |
| Fr. John Potaczek | *Chaplain |
| Open | Deputy Grand Knight |
| Jon Field | Chancellor |
| Randy Boehm | *Financial Secretary |
| Jim Kolba | Treasurer |
| Matt Schwab | Advocate |
| Open | Recorder |
| Tom Jodarski | Warden |
| Open | Inside Guard |
| Dick Schwab | Outside Guard |
| Stephen Powers | Trustee for One Year |
| Don Kratcha | Trustee for Two Years |
| Bill Powers | Trustee for Three Years |

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| *Program Director | Bill Powers |
| *Family Director | Jon Field |
| *Community Dir | Howard Boppart |
| *Faith Director | |
| *Life Director | |

*appointed, not elected



Knights of Columbus.

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Knight's Compass

is a monthly publication of the Solomon Juneau Council 2770 in Mauston, WI
Questions and requests for copies may be directed to Steve@Hesprich.com / cell-Text: 608-400-2638.