

KNIGHT'S COMPASS

Direction for Family in Faith



Christmas/January 2024

Solomon Juneau Council 2770

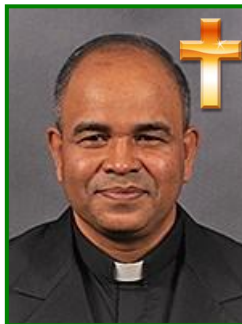
Vol 4 Issue 5

Christ's Compass— All Things New

Dear Knights and friends;

In the two thousand twenty-third year of our Lord, we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Advent was a preparation for his birth on December 25th.

I find this season of Christ's birth to be complementary of both giving and receiving. Probably more than any other time of the year, we see innumerable examples of people helping people. At the same time, who cannot remember the gifts they have received over the years, often material, but also in non-material ways. For example we receive hope for eternal life because our Savior is born. The birth of a child



brings all things new, not just to that newly born child, but to each of us who will be affected and influenced by that child. There is no better example of this than the birth of Christ. He brings all things new, as scripture tells us. While we enjoy the Christmas cards and gifts of this season, may you ponder even more so, the reason we celebrate this season. Christ comes to us in a humble manner, with the shepherds

following a bright star to his birth place in Bethlehem. Don't forget one other important thing about Christmas. It is not just a day. It is a season that goes from Christ's birth to the Baptism of the Lord, to January 8, 2024.

Speaking of all things new, the Knights of Columbus welcomed Fr. Jey Yobu as a new member of the Knights on Tuesday, December 19, 2023. See the article on the next page.

On a personal note, I will be traveling to my home country of Sri Lanka January 8th and returning February 9th. If there is anything needed in my role as council chaplain, contact Deacon Tom Hale at St. Mary's or Fr. Jey Yobu at St. Patrick's.

Bless all of you in the Season of Christ's birth. Wishing you all the very best for a prosperous new year in 2024,

Fr. Cryton

St. Mary Pastor & Council Chaplain

The next council meeting is Tuesday, January 16th 7 pm in Reardon Hall

In this issue:

Christ's Compass—All Things New	1
Dawning of a new (K)night—Fr. Jey	2
Council Compass— Remember Charity	2
Family Compass—November Family	3
Warm the Children	3
Compass of Leadership in the Knights	3
Dawning of a new (K)night—Mick M	4
Knights of the Round Table	4
Tootsie Rolls—CPID	4
50 Golden Years of Knights in Wisconsin	5
COR/TMIY A Man's Compass	5
Compass Minutes—November	6
Compass Minutes—December	6
Feed the Hungry—Food Box Preparation	6
Charity—Compass of the First Degree	6
Compass of Tax Protection-Life Insurance	7
Free for All—Free Throw	7
Compass of Life	7
Breakfast with Santa	7
God Country Flag	8
124 Years	8
Pontifical High Mass	8
Our Lady of Guadalupe	9
Calendar	10
Officers/Appointed Positions	10

NEXT ISSUE: February 2024

Dawning of a new (K)night—Fr. Jey Yobu

Steve Hesprich, Membership Director

One of my great pleasures as the membership director of the council is to get to know a man who quickly sees the value of the mission of the Knights of Columbus. Fr. Jeyaseelan “Fr. Jey” Yobu has been in the United States for a little under 3 years. He came to the United States from Southern India. When he arrived in Wisconsin and the Diocese of La Crosse, he was assigned to two small rural churches, St. Ansgar in Blair and St. Bridget in Ettrick where he served for two years.

Fr. Jey was Ordained a priest in 2004 for the Archdiocese of Madurai, India. After his Ordination he was appointed as the personal secretary and Master of Ceremonies (MC) for the Archbishop of Madurai. He then served for 10 years for the diocesan Social Service Centre, eventually becoming its director. In this role he travelled throughout the archdiocese to do the works of upliftment and empowerment of the socially and economically disadvantaged people. He was then assigned, interestingly, as Pastor of St.

Patrick parish in India in 2015, where he served for nearly 5 years, a large parish of over 1100 families.

He came to our parish, of course also called St. Patrick, this past summer, early July. I had an opportunity to meet with him within a week of him arriving, so I could see what he knew about the Knights. Since there was not a Knights council in Blair or Ettrick, his only exposure to the Knights were honor guards he saw at La Crosse Diocesan ordinations. He quickly found value in the Knights and when we were preparing our parish re-dedication Mass on Friday September 1, 2023, he asked if an honor guard could be provided, and we indeed had that happen.

On Tuesday, December 19, 2023 we had a welcoming/induction ceremony in which

Fr. Jey became a member of the Knights of Columbus. You can see in the photo above Grand Knight Steve congratulating Fr. Jey after a 3rd degree Knighthood with the fourth degree sword.

Each year our State Raffle provides charitable monies in the form of rebates to councils for their charitable programs. The State also retains some

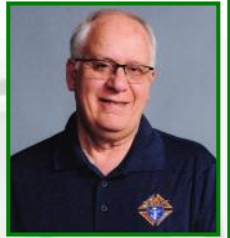
of the raffle proceeds for statewide needs. This Fall our council tapped into the State raffle monies to help Fr. Jey who had two difficult circumstances in September that had financial impact on his life. An automobile accident early that month, and then the death of his oldest brother in India, took him unexpectedly home for that brother’s funeral. Our council submitted a state charity grant request. As a result the State Council donated \$1,000 to Fr. Jey (check presentation to Fr. Jey above) to help offset his costs.

Even before Fr. Jey became a Knight he attended our council meetings. Along with activities our council conducted in the parish he could easily see the contributions of the Knights, and the value of becoming a member. We look forward to serving Fr. Jey as Pastor of St. Patrick and now a member of the Knights of Columbus.

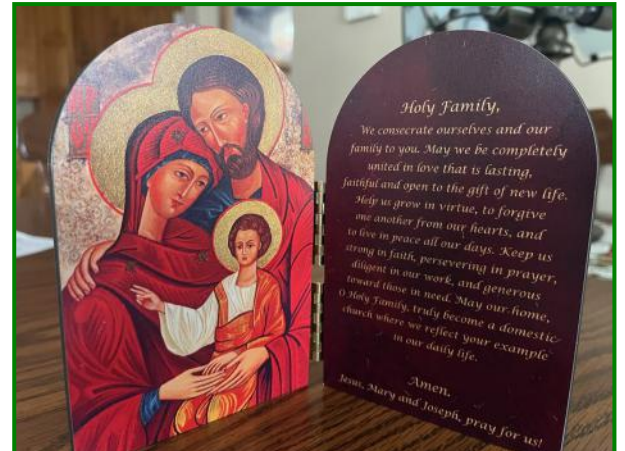


Council Compass—Remember Charity

Steve Hesprich, Grand Knight Families of St. Patrick and St. Mary’s:



We are in the middle of the busiest time of the year for the Knights—September to February. We have a couple of youth athletic contests, one completed in November and the other starting in late January 2024. We had the opportunity to do two check presentations from our Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities monies (see article later in this issue). We’ve already done three pancake breakfasts and have the annual State Charity Raffle underway with it providing the majority of our funding for our charitable donations. We just received a check for over \$2,300 from this past Spring’s raffle drawing at our State Convention. We’ve been busy welcoming two new knights (see their profiles in this issue), we have an active Family of the Month program to recognize outstanding family contributions at both St. Patrick and St. Mary parishes. In fact we had a wonderful recognition at the Supreme level of Family of the Month recipient Ann Benz. Supreme selected her as



the Wisconsin Family of the Month and sent her the beautiful Holy Family icon you see above, with a Holy Family prayer (reproduced below).

Holy Family Prayer

We consecrate ourselves and our family to you. May we be completely united in love that is lasting, faithful and open to the gift of new life. Help us to grow in virtue, to forgive one another from our hearts, and to live in peace all our days. Keep us strong in faith, persevering in prayer, diligent in our work, and generous toward those in need. May our home, O Holy Family, truly become a domestic church where we reflect your example in our daily life. Amen. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us.

Other recent charitable activities included “Coats for Kids” (article later in this issue) and the “Keep Christ in Christmas” yard signs and Nativity scene car magnets.

Wishing all a most wonderful Christmas season and new year! Remember Charity to all.

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

Family Compass—November 2023 Family of the Month—Larry & Tina Moore

Steve Hesprich

Our Family of the Month for November 2023 are Larry & Tina Moore, who have served actively in the parish since coming to Mauston in the late 1980s.

Larry worked for many years for Juneau County in maintenance and after he retired has taken on maintenance tasks for St. Patrick. Tina is very involved in funeral Mass preparations. Both Larry and Tina serve every Sunday as Sacristans at St. Patrick which involves getting offertory gifts and the items prepared for the celebration of the 8am Mass. Larry is one of the



Warm the Children

Steve Hesprich

This fall our council embarked upon an involvement of a program, now several years in the making, called "Coats for Kids". To date over one million coats for children and teens have been distributed by councils throughout North America. One of the improvements made in this program was to distribute much warmer coats than in the past, so as to meet the harsh winter cold in Wisconsin. Our council started this program modestly, ordering a case (12 coats) for boys, and one for girls, 7-12 year olds. We had a 3-part plan for the give-away of these coats, with each part dependent on having remaining coats from the earlier giveaways. First, we offered coats to the children at St. Patrick's grade school and then the parish. We saw 7 boys, and 3 girls coats given. Second, we took the remaining coats (5 boys and 9 girls) to St. Mary's in Lyndon Station and offered them to parishioners in need, as well as for their Wednesday night student Catholic formation classes. We saw 2 boys and 2 girls coats given. Finally, the third step was to go to West Side Elementary who has a clothing closet (which our council supported financially a couple of years ago), to whom we have given the remaining 3 boys and 7 girls coats.

Compass of Leadership in the Knights

Knights are generally aware of the hierarchical structure of the Knights. A council is part of a district which consists of four councils in the case of our District 20. There is a Diocesan, then State set of leaders. Among each of the State officers, one is assigned to give particular assistance to a diocese.

Ross Larson is the State Treasurer and the man assigned to support the Diocese of La Crosse councils. Ross is the Grand Knight for Queen of Apostles Council 16280 in Marathon City and District Deputy #29, responsible for 3 councils west of the Wausau area. Ross has been Financial Secretary for Council 16280 and for St Anthony Council 16937 in Athens. Ross is a past Faithful Navigator for the Pere Rene Marquette Assembly 1449.

Sir Knight Ross and his wife Rebecca live in Edgar. Originally from Racine, they were married at St. Sebastian's in Sturtevant in 1997. They are members of The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Marathon City. They have been blessed with several children, Samuel and Emily, Emolia, Maxmilian, Sophia and Genevieve. Ross and Rebecca have one grand-daughter they call Miss Maggie. Ross was elected State Treasurer at this past Spring's State Convention and he is new to the State Council so he can most definitely claim to have lots to do with all his roles.



The Family of the Month program recognizes local council and parish families who have made exemplary contributions to the parish (including St. Patrick's and St. Mary's). Those selected are then forwarded for consideration as the La Crosse Diocesan Family of the Month, and also submitted for the State Family of the Month. In February each year, a Family of the Year is selected and submitted to the State for consideration as State Family of the Year.

Lectors. Larry and Tina have 5 children, shown in two photos below. This past November 9th they celebrated their 38th wedding anniversary.



In May 2024 Larry will be a 30-year member of the Knights of Columbus. Tina and Larry were involved for several years leading rosaries at a local nursing home. You will find them supporting and attending many of the parish events that take place during the course of the year. When you come to a Sunday Mass on a snowy day, the stairs to the church will be cleared by Larry. Larry is a member of the Building and Grounds Committee as well as being part of Sacred Worship. Tina is a member of the Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW).

Any member of the parish or the Knights can suggest a family of the month, please contact Steve. cell: 608-400-2638 / Steve@Hesprich.com

The full newsletter is on the Knights web page through the St. Patrick parish web site:

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

Dawning of a new (K)night—Patrick “Mick” McCormick

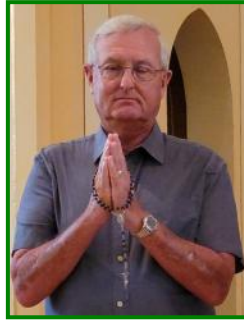
Steve Hesprich, Membership Director

If you called this Irishman cool, calm and collective, you are probably not talking about an Irishman at all. By Mick’s own admission, he can sometimes have contrarian views, if he doesn’t agree with something.

His family moved to the Mauston area in 1952 and he attended St. Patrick’s Grade school, then the parish high school for 3 of his 4 years. His animated personality caused a bit of excitement with the school and he decided to finish his final year of High School at the Mauston public high school. He went off to Dental school, and returned to Mauston where he had a dental practice for 42 years. He is a goal setter and follows through on his commitments.

At the exemplification on November 19, 2023, he made a comment about the rosary he received in the ceremony. He said it would be one of three cherished rosaries he’s received. Of the other two rosaries, was one he received at his First Holy Communion which he still has. The other valued rosary he got at Fatima in Portugal. Recreationally he enjoys playing golf and loves the Castle Rock Lake area where he has had a home since 1994.

Mick and Joan have a blended family of 18 grandchildren. Mick’s first wife, nicknamed Deema, passed away in 2014. Mick met Joan Miller-Holig who had also lost her



first husband, Robert Holig, in 2012. Joan had three children from her first marriage, Mick also has 3 children from his first marriage. Mick and Joan were married in 2017. Both Mick and Joan are heavily involved with St. Mary’s parish in Lyndon Station. Joan is on the Pastoral Council and serves as a minister of Holy Communion. Mick is a member of the Finance Council, a Lector, and sometimes is an altar server at Mass.

In the community both Mick and Joan are members of JCAIRS (Juneau County Agricultural, Industrial, and Recreational Society), and Joan is a board member of the organization. Joan continues to have a career in agriculture. She is the Treasurer of the Juneau County Dairy Show as well as a board member. She is a board member of the Juneau County Promotion Corporation Council, and a member of the FFA alumni. Mick though retired, still has his dental license and attends the Sauk-Juneau-Adams Dental Component meetings. He was a trustee for the Wisconsin Dental Association for 6 years. In the recent past he was on the Marquette University Dental School Dean’s Advisory Council. His contribution on that Council was to represent the perspectives of small town dentists. He really loves his dental profession and it is a priority of his to insure the dental profession has care for patients as a priority. Mick is a board member of the Germantown Planning Commission, and both Mick and Joan are members of the Mauston Chamber of Commerce. Joan is the owner/manager of Cattail Dairy/Cattail Acres, LLC. These are dairy & crop companies.

You can see that while Mick has his involvements, as does Joan; they both have joint involvements in which they make many contributions. It was implied earlier that Mick can be an outspoken person when circumstances dictate. However what can be seen more clearly is his desire to help and that is a person we heartily welcome into the Knights of Columbus.



Knights of the Round Table

Round Table Coordinator, Steve Hesprich

Our Knights of Columbus Round Table met in mid-November 2023 and talked about activities taking place in 2024 at St. Mary’s in Lyndon Station. Here is what some of that calendar looks like for the Knights:

- Jan 7th—Blessing of the Statue of Our Lady
- Mar 10th—KC Pancake Breakfast & Naming the basement (St. Bridget Hall)
- Jun 2nd — Corpus Christi Eucharistic Procession
- Aug 18th — Knights of Columbus Day 9am Mass (2nd anniversary of forming 8/21/22)
- Sep 22nd — Jubilee Mass w/Bishop—Honor Guard
- Oct 27th — KC Pancake Breakfast

We also had a brief discussion about the possibility of forming a council. We would probably need about 25 members to make it possible. We have about half that number at the moment.

Tootsie Rolls—CPID

Our Knights of Columbus council presented checks from this past May’s Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities, commonly known as the Tootsie Roll Drive. Jon Field chaired this year’s campaign as we again raised a substantial donation total. The monies received are sent to the State Council, from which the State deducts the cost of Tootsie Rolls, and 10% for State CPID Charity use. When we send the monies, we designate a percentage to go to one or more causes. The State then sends the check to our council for distribution to the beneficiary organizations. Our council voted to have 90% of proceeds donated to the Mauston School District’s special needs program, and 10% to St. Patrick School.



In the photo above, a check for \$2,288.85 was presented by Steve Hesprich, Grand Knight (left back), to Tracy Longhenry (back holding check), the Special Needs Teacher of the program. Donna Miller who helps in the program is second to the back right. All the students in the photo are special needs students.



In the photo to the left, For St. Patrick the check for \$254.32 was presented to the Principal of St. Patrick, Toni Ross, by GK Steve.

Steps to Join the Knights for 1st Year FREE:

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

50 Golden Years of Knights in Wisconsin

Preface: The Wisconsin State Council published a book in 1952 entitled "50 Golden Years Knights of Columbus 1902-1952". This is the second of several excerpts that will be published in this and upcoming newsletters.

By Mauston Council Historical Committee

[This month we continue the commentary on this publication by introducing the charter council officers, say a bit about the charter members, and continue the history after the formation of the council.]

A few nights after the institution of the new council, the members met in the council club rooms in the school basement and elected the following officers :

Grand Knight	Conrad C. Ohman
Deputy Grand Knight	Verne C. Trump
Chaplain	Rev. Vincent Schwartz
Chancellor	R.J. Temple
Financial Secretary	William Brown
Warden	Frank E. Curran
Treasurer	Harold Steiner
Recording Secretary	Paul Siratzki
Lecturer	Elmer E. Young
Inside Guard	John Bernard
Outer Guard	John Eaglesam
Trustees	H.M. Krautz
	Gilbert L. Eckerle
	John H. Ensich

A strong charter group of 59 members began the journey of the Solomon Juneau Council. Because some of our current members may recognize the names of family members here are the charter members:

*Members who passed away by 1952 when book published

Frederick Anglim	Harold Hageman	Rev. Vincent Schwartz
John F. Arkulary	Victor Hillebrand	Arthur E. Seigler
Joseph E. Barrett	Lester Herriatt	Francis F. Seigler
John R. Bernard	*Michael J. Hogan	Dr. Clement G. Sexton
William H. Boyle	Earl T. Kelley	Edward P. Shie
William H. Brown	Herbert M. Kranz	Paul Siratzke
*Jeremiah Carrigg	Louis Laboda	Eugene Smart
Thomas Clark	Alex McCafferty	George A. Steiner
Joseph R. Coles	Leo Mullowney	Harold G. Steiner
Charles P. Curran	James Murray	Joseph A. Steiner
Frank E. Curran	Bernard Ohman	Robert J. Temple
Peter H. Curran	Conrad C. Ohman	Leo R. Timebers
Michael Donlin	Elmer B. Ohman	William J. Tracy
Thomas J. Donlin	Anthony B. Petrowitz	Verne Trump
John F. Eagleson	Phillip Quinn	Edward T. Vinopal, Jr.
Gilbert L. Eckerle	Thomas Quinn	*John B. Walsh
John H. Ensich	Dr. Walter Regnier	Elmer E. Young
John H. Galvin	Martin A. Remington	*James Zobal
Milo Galvin, Jr.	Edward Riley	Joseph Zobal
*John Ganser	*Rev. George Schleicher	

One year later an anniversary class of forty-two candidates was initiated in the same school hall, and since that date there have been additional members each year, until the membership as of August, 1951 was 181.

The council went into real Catholic Action soon after its organization. One of its early projects was the raising and appropriation of \$90.00 [\$1,041 in 2023 dollars] to Rev. Father Schwartz for the purchase of athletic equipment for the boys of St. Patrick's school.

Each Holy Thursday, Since 1937, the council has held an all-night vigil.

An amusing incident occurred at the first vigil. Each pair of knights was

to be relieved at the end of a half hour. Brothers Jerry Carrigg, now deceased, and John F. Arkulary were next to the last, and were to be relieved at 7:30 on Good Friday morning. Came 7:30 and no relief showed up, so Brother John crossed the aisle and told Brother Terry that he must go to the store to open and turn on the heat. Brother Jerry remained a short time and still no replacements, so he devoutly went to the altar and blew out all of the vigil lights before leaving.

This council held good-will luncheons with Masons, American Legions, and others occasionally. They have successfully sponsored a Good Friday closing program in Mauston. They have always sponsored the parochial school essay contest, and in 1941 they had the distinction of having Miss Mary Helen Schroeder of St. Patrick's parochial school as the winner of the all statewide essay contests. This council has given ten dollars annually to the Catholic Hour. In 1948, one hundred dollars was donated to the diocesan seminary and thirty-five dollars to the Catholic Charities of the diocese. The members turn out almost solidly each Easter for corporate Holy Communion. They have always donated liberally to the Red Cross, Infantile Paralysis, and other programs, as well as such causes as Father Flanagan's Boys Home, the Diocesan Orphanage and Big Brothers program in the La Crosse diocese. The Council sponsored Days of Recollection in 1949 at New Lisbon and in 1951 at Mauston. They also conducted a Holy Year pilgrimage starting at Mauston, New Lisbon, Camp Douglas, with the final visit at Mauston in 1951.

Next Month we continue the story of our council's first 15 years by talking about the 4th degree and involvements during the WWII.



COR/TMIY A Man's Compass

By Howard Boppart, Faith Director

We continue to encourage all men to be actively involved in building up their faith, and by that effort, build up their family, being an example to the entire parish community.

About this year's 2nd half program....

In the new year we take up the remaining sessions Please join us beginning January 19th, continuing to meet at **6:30 am at the Mile Bluff Hospital, 2nd floor community room.**

- 1/19: Sober Intoxication of the Spirit
- 1/26: Our Father Who Art in Heaven
- 2/2: Silent Knight, Holy Knight
- 2/9: Meet Your Spiritual Father
- 2/16: The Shadow of the Father
- 2/23: First Society
- 3/1: The Day is Far Spent
- 3/8: The Signs of the Times
- 3/15: The Renewal of the New Springtime
- 3/22: Angelic Guardians 3/29: Renewed in Mercy
- 4/5: A New Day, A New Man
- 4/12: Avanti! The Harvest is Plentiful

Compass Minutes—November 2023

Steve Hesprich, Acting Recorder

The November 21, 2023 council meeting began at 7:02 pm. After an opening prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, the council conducted a new member exemplification of the principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. We welcomed Patrick “Mick” McCormick as a new member of the Knights.

[see profile on page 4] After the exemplification we started the business meeting. Minutes of the October 17, 2023 meeting were approved as published in the Nov/Dec 2023 newsletter. Fr. Cryton

thanked those who helped with the Pancake Breakfast at St. Mary’s in October. He mentioned attending the 4th degree Clergy Appreciation Dinner in Tomah on Sunday November 19th. We then presented Fr. Cryton with his Honorary Life membership card which all priests who become Knights, receive. There is a joint Madison/La Crosse Diocese KC meeting on Sunday December 3, 2023 at Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells. Grand knights, deputy grand knights, financial secretaries, program and membership directors are invited. Bishop Donald J. Hying of the Madison Diocese will be the featured speaking, talking about the Eucharist.

Treasurer’s report: General Account had an opening balance of \$2,388.43. Two deposits were made of \$596 for the St. Mary Breakfast in October (money to be segregated for St. Mary Knights use) and St. Patrick November Breakfast proceeds of \$735. A check for \$45.41 for Pass Punt and Kick contest medals was written to Jon Field and one for \$29.52 was written for the St. Mary Breakfast expenses to Howard Boppart (reduces the segregated amount for St. Mary Knights use). The ending balance was \$3,644.50. After segregating St. Mary Knights monies, the general account balance is \$3,078.02. Charitable Fund at BMO bank had a beginning balance of \$1,006.85. \$320 was added for the St. Patrick Fall Festival for an ending balance of \$1,326.85. Howard Boppart mentioned we get supplies that are used across multiple breakfasts, but the way it’s happened in the past, one of the breakfasts gets that cost. Instead we should allocate costs across all the breakfasts and provide a more equitable distribution of net proceeds to each breakfast beneficiary (especially the ones for the 5th through 8th grades).

Membership: State has a new incentive to give a \$100 Spring per capita credit if 5 new members come in between Nov 1 and Christmas 2023. We read the recent bulletin letter from Fr. Jey regarding his support of the That Man Is You (TMIY.org) program. A motion was approved for \$50 to pay for five Masses for the intention of living and deceased Knights over the next year. The first 4 of those will be 5th Sundays. The fifth one will be for the annual Memorial Mass for deceased Knights of our council. That will be Sunday November 3, 2024 at the 8 am Mass. We expect again to have an honor guard for that Mass.

Community Director: Breakfast with Santa to be promoted with the December 10th Pancake Breakfast. Signs and magnets for “Keep Christ in Christmas” had just arrived and were shown to the council. We will sell those for \$5 each both at St. Pat’s and St. Mary’s. Reminder to promote the State Raffle tickets to businesses, to have them help sell them. We have received the CPID checks for Mauston High School special needs (90%) and St. Pat School (10%). The calendar of events was reviewed. February’s council meeting will be at St. Mary’s. March 10th will be the St. Mary’s Pancake Breakfast.

Financial Secretary: We received the CPID checks which will be presented to the Schools who are the beneficiaries. \$25.73 will be reimbursed to GK for new member kits purchased. Liability Insurance will be paid for \$315. A motion was made and passed for \$500 donation to the Food Pantry through Bank of Mauston which will match our donation. A motion was passed to buy 18 youth bibles for \$12.50 each (total \$225) - We won’t buy them right now but in time to be presented in May 2024.

We closed with petitions for Brian Fox’s sister Connie, for Fr. Jey’s return to health, for the repose of the soul of Mary Ann Strack, and for surgery recovery of Pat Michelle. The meeting ended at 8:45 pm.



Compass Minutes—December 2023

Steve Hesprich, Acting Recorder

For the scheduled December 19, 2023 council meeting an Exemplification was conducted followed by cookie and ice cream social to celebrate our new member, Fr. Jeyaseelan “Fr. Jey” Yobu. No formal meeting was conducted.

The next council meeting will be in the new year, Tuesday January 16, 2024.

Feed the Hungry—Food Boxes

Kevin Quist, Deputy Grand Knight

For the 3rd year, our council has been involved in the preparation of food boxes for the needy in the Christmas season. This is as joint effort of local churches. Each church is responsible for providing one of the items included in the food box preparation that occurred this year on Friday December 15th. A church also serves as the host. This year the food preparation and distribution took



Fr Jey, Lauren Laeridan, Connor Laeridan, Johann Wolf, Seth Schwedersky, Kevin Quist



place at the Bible Baptist Church.

Not only were the Knights supporting this effort but several of our Confirmation students helped as well (see photo). 150 families will have a Christmas meal with this program.

Charity—Compass of the First Degree

Steve Powers, Raffle Chairman

With the combining of the first 3 degrees of the Knights into one exemplification in 2020, it is easy to lose sight of each degree. Our most foundational principle is that of Charity. We learn that charity is not just about physical contributions such as money. It is also about the heart of the giver. For the Knights we embrace both. An example is the annual State Raffle.

Each year the Wisconsin State Council conducts a raffle to support both State and local council charities. Tickets are \$5 each

and a portion of that amount comes back to the council. In 2023 that amounted to a net of \$2,183 for our council. That’s the money part. Then how we use it and the involvement of its use we see unfold each year with our charitable activities. Invite all your family and friends to get raffle tickets so we can support the many charitable needs of our community.

Compass of Tax Protection—Life Insurance

Greg Helgerson, Field Agent

Are you frustrated on receiving year-end 1099 forms and having to pay taxes on CDs or other taxable investments? Although the primary purpose of life insurance is the death benefit to your beneficiaries, whole life (or cash building) life insurance policies typically have certain tax advantages that may be appealing.



1. **Cash Value Life policies may pay dividends, which aren't taxable.** Dividends are considered a return of premium. You can take these dividends as a check, apply them to reduce or eventually pay the entire premium, invest them to the cash value portion of the policy to continue to grow, or apply them to increase the face amount of your coverage.

2. **The cash value grows without taxation.** Cash value insurance builds cash value inside the policy as you pay premiums. Since you pay the premiums with after-tax dollars, the buildup of the cash value is allowed to grow tax deferred.

3. **You can access the cash value of the policy at any age, at any time, and for any reason.**

Compare that advantage to the penalty of "borrowing" YOUR MONEY from plans such as your 401(k) or IRA if you're under age 59½ and possible penalties if the money is not paid back by a certain time.

4. **Typical of all insurance policies, the lump sum death benefit is likely paid out to your beneficiaries income tax free.** Life insurance inheritances can be substantial – and may go a long way toward making financial reality better for your loved ones, possibly for generations to come. Taking away the government's tax bite can be a big advantage for your beneficiaries. The many types of life insurance available today make it easier to help protect loved ones while achieving other financial goals. For more information, simply contact /me and request our detailed information on types of life insurance.



Free for All—Free Throw

By Randy Boehm, Free Throw Chairman

Our 2024 Council Free Throw has been scheduled. It will take place Sunday, January 28, 2024 with registration starting at 11 am, and the contest beginning at noon. It will take place at the St. Patrick School Gym. There is no cost for participants.



The competition has a boys, and a girls division with age categories from each division for the ages 9 to 14. The District 20 competition is still to be scheduled in February and will be hosted by the Hillsboro council. This competition is open to all boys and girls 9 to 14 years of age in the general area.

Compass of Life

Juneau County Pro-Life Committee

The work to protect life continues. For several years the Juneau County Pro-Life Committee has organized an annual pro-life march in the 3rd Sunday of January by listening to pro-life speakers and marching around the Juneau County Courthouse for an hour with signs supporting life. While the focus since the Roe vs. Wade decision in 1973 was the original impetus for the march, the

overturning of Roe vs Wade in June 2022 only changed the focus to look at the laws, and more importantly the attitudes toward



supporting life, especially of the innocent life in the womb. We start at the Juneau County Courthouse 1 pm.

We invite you to join us as we march for the support of life from the womb.

Breakfast with Santa

By Howard Boppart, Faith Director

Santa visited the Knights of Columbus breakfast on Sunday December 10th! We had lots of good boys and girls sit on Santa's lap. Sometimes those good boys and girls were

young of heart rather than young of age.

As our council has done in recent years for our December breakfast we had the 7th grade class of St. Patrick's School, along with their teacher, Tom Dorsch, serve breakfast while the Knights did the cooking. Above, you can see Tom, Santa, and the 7th graders who helped.



4th Watch of the (K)night

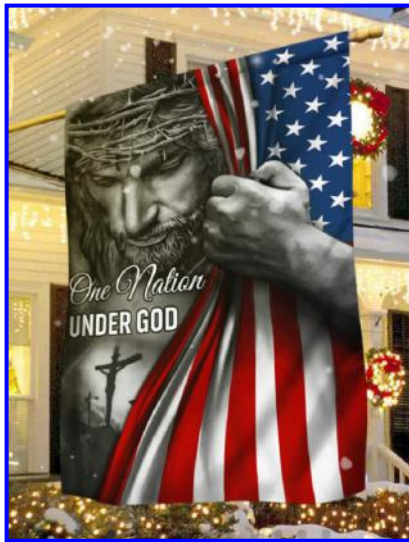
Matthew 14:25



God Country Flag

A continuing series: An idea to renew our faith in a nation "conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal"

In the last issue of *4th Watch of the (K)night* we introduced the idea of a new program called "God Country Flag". Here we introduce its banner, 'One nation under God' which visually dramatizes the sense of 'God Country Flag'. This phrase, one nation under God, is the motto introduced in our country's Pledge of Allegiance. The Knights of Columbus had a material influence in adding the words "under God" to the Pledge in the 1950s. One of the greatest tributes to the Pledge of Allegiance was performed by a well known comedian of the 1950s and 60s, Red Skeleton. In a video easily found in a



**Purpose of "God Country Flag":
Promote and strengthen the respect, admiration and loyalty to our God, our country and our flag.
Help build leaders who promote patriotism in our communities.**

search of the Internet, one can find his infamous breakdown, word by word, of the Pledge. Today we take for granted these added words "under God". As Red Skeleton is first explaining "one" and "nation" in his tribute to the pledge, he initially doesn't mention the words "under God". It becomes more poignant when he purposely comes back to talk about the addition of "under God".

It is the intent of "God Country Flag" to be a presentation program involving emotional sentiments of loyalty represented by the flag to God and Country, to emphasize the importance of the Pledge of Allegiance, always recited in the presence of the flag, to appreciate the history of our flag, especially in Wisconsin. We need all Americans, born here or immigrants who make America their home, to understand the sacrifice of life that has made our flag so important. Finally we need to know the underlying reasons for the design of the flag which points to important principles of our nation's founding.

At the March 18, 2024 Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly 1902 dinner meeting this program will be formally introduced. All 4th degree members and their wives are invited to attend. The social hour is from 5 to 6 pm, with dinner at 6 pm. The location of this meeting is still to be determined.

4th Watch of the (K)night.

Steve Hesprich, PFN, FFC—Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly 1902

124 Years

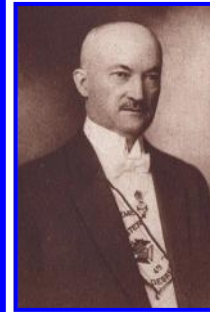
125th anniversary of the 4th degree is Feb 22, 2025

By Steve Hesprich

On February 22, 2024, the 4th degree will be 124 years old.

We are roughly one year away from the 125th anniversary of the 4th degree of the Knights of Columbus' Patriotic degree. The most influential Knight in all the early formation of the 4th degree was John H. Reddin. I was fortunate to have many involvements with the first Knights of Columbus council established west of the Mississippi River, Council 539 in

Denver Colorado through my involvements with that council in the early 2000s. The council was established in 1900 through the initiative of John H. Reddin who was its first Grand Knight for 3 years. His involvement in the fourth degree is nothing but impressive. It begins however as a 3rd degree member....



**John H. Reddin,
Supreme Master**

Not satisfied to be the "Mother Council of the West," Reddin and his Degree Team headed by J.K. Mullen chartered a private train in 1901 and traveled west from Denver to Leadville to Salt Lake City, Los Angeles and San Francisco and up the coast to Seattle and Tacoma, Washington, and back down the Pacific Coast as far south as Mexico City, and then back to Denver, through New Mexico and Arizona, founding councils all along the route. This Degree Team became known as the foremost Ceremonial Team in the country.

In 1903, Reddin became the founder with others, of and composed the Ritual for, the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus, the patriotic degree of the Knights. He was the first Supreme Master of the Fourth Degree until his death on December 30, 1940 at the age of 82. He was on the Board of Directors of the Supreme Council for 33 years until his health forced him to step down.

At the inception of the 4th degree it was necessary to make an arbitrary selection of the candidates. Roughly 1400 members were so chosen for the first grand exemplification which was held in New York on February 22, 1900*.

There is much to be said about the value of the Patriotic Degree. Here we have presented the beginnings of its 124 year history.

**book "Knights of Columbus in Peace and War" by Maurice Francis Egan & John B. Kennedy, p118.*

Pontifical High Mass

On Saturday December 16, 2023, an honor guard accompanied His Eminence Raymond Cardinal Burke in the Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Just four days earlier an honor guard of 21 accompanied his Eminence, Cardinal Burke on the occasion of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. When the Cardinal came to the narthex at the Shrine church, he commented about having 21 men just a few days earlier, noting only 3 were there today. Color Corp Commander Frank DiBenedetto replied, "today you have the three best honor guard members".





Our Lady of Guadalupe

*Portions of the Homily of His Eminence Raymond Cardinal Burke
(full homily with references can be found at:*

www.guadalupe Shrine.org/post/advent-messages-from-cardinal-burke)

... the Virgin Mother of God, Our Lady of Guadalupe, announced to Saint Juan Diego at the very beginning of her apparitions to him from December 9th to 12th of 1531:

Know, know for sure my dearest and youngest son, that I am truly the ever perfect Holy Virgin Mary, who has the honor to be the Mother of the one true God for whom we live, the Creator of people, the Lord of all around us and of what is close to us, the Lord of Heaven, the Lord of Earth.

From the symbols imprinted upon her most beautiful garment, Saint Juan Diego knew that she was with child and from her words he understood that the Child was God the Son Incarnate in her womb.

Carl Anderson, the then-Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, and Monsignor Eduardo Chávez, renowned scholar of the Virgin of Guadalupe, in their book, *Our Lady of Guadalupe: Mother of the Civilization of Love*, help us to understand the power of the symbols and of Our Lady’s words. Commenting on how Our Lady used titles for the Supreme Being from the ancient pagan culture – for whom God was inaccessible and therefore unknown – to refer to her Divine Son, they explain for us how the wonderful mystery of her Divine Maternity is symbolized in her most beautiful garment: In the apparition account, Our Lady of Guadalupe speaks of her Son using these titles (Him for whom one lives, Creator of people, Owner of the near and close, Lord of heaven and earth). And yet, it is absolutely clear that she is speaking of Christ. ,,,

The cause of our joy today, the cause of our abiding joy, the cause of our eternal joy, is Christ, God-the-Son Incarnate, Whom His Virgin Mother brought into the world and to Whom she is ever drawing us, showing us that He, seated at the right hand of God-the-Father in glory, is also with us in His holy Church which, together with the Virgin Mary, we rightly call Mother.

Christ is the fulfillment of man’s deepest desire: to know God and to love and serve Him. Our Lady uses the ancient pagan language to show that



An Honor Guard of 21 participated in the liturgy including several from our assembly

Christ alone fulfills man’s deepest longing. She does not reduce her Divine Maternity to the understanding of the pagans but manifests the truth that the Redemptive Incarnation corrects, elevates, and perfects that understanding. Christ’s Coming into the World is, as His Public Ministry shows, always the invitation to conversion of life. The first words of Our Lord’s preaching are:

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel.” In fact, we know that, subsequent to her apparitions, in a relatively short space of time, millions of pagans received the grace of Faith and Baptism....

The Church in our time faces similar seemingly impossible challenges. Human life itself, marriage and the family, and the practice of the faith are all under constant attack from a culture which refuses to recognize God and to submit in obedience to His commandments. Many today violently rebel against God Who reveals Himself to us through reason and, most fully and perfectly, through the Catholic faith.

The rebellion has beguiled even members of Christ’s Mystical Body,



leading them to abandon Christ and His Way, leading them to apostasy. What are we to do? What is the Church to do?

Some, even among Bishops, would tell us that the Church has to change her doctrine, her Sacred Worship, and her discipline, in order to accommodate the culture. They talk about a necessary paradigm shift or an ill-defined synodal way which declares that all are welcome in the Church without making clear the conversion to Christ which is necessary to be a member of His Mystical Body....Our Lord wants all of us to share in the banquet of divine grace, but we cannot do so unless our hearts, one with the Immaculate Heart of Mary, rest in His Most Sacred Heart, unless we allow ourselves to be clothed with Him in our daily life.

The way of the Church in today’s crisis is the same as it has always been. The teaching of the Deposit of Faith and of all the riches of the Catholic Faith, daily prayer and worship of God “in spirit and in truth,” and a good and holy daily life. Before the great challenge of our time, Pope Saint John Paul II cautioned us that we will not save ourselves and our world by discovering “some magic formula” or by “inventing a new programme.” In unmistakable terms, he declared:

“No, we shall not be saved by a formula but by a Person, and the assurance which he gives us: I am with you.” He reminded us that the program by which we are to address effectively the great spiritual challenges of our time is, in the end, Jesus Christ alive for us in the Church. ... This is a program which does not change with shifts of times and cultures, even though it takes account of time and culture for the sake of true dialogue and effective communication.

In short, the program leading to freedom and happiness is, for each of us, holiness of life, in accord with our state in life and the particular gifts with which God has endowed us....

DATE	TIME	EVENT	HOST	NOTES
Sunday January 7, 2024	9:00 AM	Blessing of Blessed Virgin Mary Statue	St. Mary	
Saturday January 13, 2024	10-Noon	District 20 Meeting; all Knights invited, especially GK, FS, DGK, Program & Membership Directors	DD20	Hosted by Hillsboro Council 9070 St. Aloysius Church 545 Prairie Ave, Hillsboro 54634
Monday January 15, 2024	5:00 PM	Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly; Social 5 pm; Order menu 5:30 pm; Dinner 6 pm	KC1902	Perkins Restaurant, 1015 E McCoy Blvd, Tomah; Fr. Matt Bowe trip to Lourdes
Tuesday January 16, 2024	6:30 PM	Officers Meeting	KC2770	Reardon Hall; Select Delegates to State Convention in Chula Vista (Apr 26-28)
Tuesday January 16, 2024	7:00 PM	Council Meeting		
Friday January 19, 2024	6:30 AM	That Man is You/COR - Sober Intoxication of the Spirit	KC2770	Mile Bluff Hospital, 2nd floor Conf Rm; Fridays through 4/12
Sunday January 21, 2024	8 AM -noon	Pancake Breakfast Jan - benefit 6th grade class	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Sunday January 21, 2024	1:00 PM	MARCH FOR LIFE	KC2770	Juneau County Courthouse, 101 State St, Mauston; Reception after in Reardon Hall
Friday January 26, 2024	6:30 AM	That Man is You/COR - Our Father Who Art in Heaven	KC2770	Mile Bluff Hospital, 2nd floor Conf Rm; Fridays through 4/12
Sunday January 28, 2024	Noon	COUNCIL FREE THROW CONTEST	KC2770	St. Pat School Gym; Registration 11 am, Contest noon
Friday February 2, 2024	6:30 AM	That Man is You/COR - Silent Knight, Holy Knight	KC2770	Mile Bluff Hospital, 2nd floor Conf Rm; Fridays through 4/12
TBD		DISTRICT 20 FREE THROW CONTEST	District 20	Likely to be hosted by Hillsboro Council
Friday February 9, 2024	6:30 AM	That Man is You/COR - Meet Your Spiritual Father	KC2770	Mile Bluff Hospital, 2nd floor Conf Rm; Fridays through 4/12
Wed February 14, 2024		ASH WEDNESDAY		
Friday February 16, 2024	6:30 AM	That Man is You/COR - The Shadow of the Father	KC2770	Mile Bluff Hospital, 2nd floor Conf Rm; Fridays through 4/12
Sunday February 18, 2024	8 AM -noon	Pancake Breakfast Feb - benefit 5th grade class	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Monday February 19, 2024	5:00 PM	Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly; Social 5 pm; Order menu 5:30 pm; Dinner 6 pm	KC1902	Taphouse Twenty, 201 Helen Walton Dr, Tomah; Benny Mailman, Editor of Monroe County Herald on world travels
Tuesday February 20, 2024	6:30 PM	Officers Meeting	KC2770	Basement of St. Mary's
Tuesday February 20, 2024	7:00 PM	Council Meeting		

Officers 2023-2024

Steve Hesprich Grand Knight
 Kevin Quist Deputy Grand Knight
 Jon Field Chancellor
 Tony Oldigs Treasurer
 Matt Schwab Advocate
 Tom Jodarski Recorder
 Joe Buttner Jr Warden
 Howard Boppart Inside Guard
 Dick Schwab Outside Guard
 Jeff Wojcik Outside Guard
 Stephen Powers Trustee for One Year
 Bill Powers Trustee for Two Years
 Howard Boppart Trustee for Three Years

2023-2024 Appointed Positions

Fr. Cryton Outschoorn Chaplain
 Randy Boehm Financial Secretary
 Open Lecturer
 Kevin Quist Program Director
 Jon Field Community Director
 Steve Hesprich Family Director
 Howard Boppart Faith Director
 Open Life Director



Knights' 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. The monthly council newsletter is published on our website.