

KNIGHT'S COMPASS

Direction for Family in Faith



October-December 2024

Solomon Juneau Council 2770

Vol 5 Issue 2

Christ's Compass—Tis the Season

Dear Knights and friends;

We have started our Advent preparations for the birth of Christ. Advent gives us with a wonderful opportunity! "What!?" you say. Each of us can take time for more prayer in preparation for Christmas. So many things seem uncertain, that perhaps we should get back to the basics of our faith by asking God to walk the corridors of our hearts.

Many are suffering because of the normal challenges of our life. We might feel weak in that suffering. St. Paul gives us a perspective on our weakness that comes in suffering.

In 2 Corinthians chapter 12 he says this:

"I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and constraints, for the sake of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong."

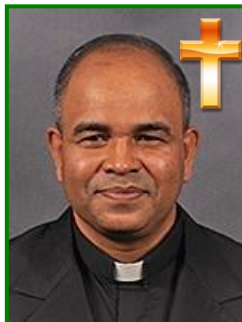
At first glance we may see this as a contradiction. However upon closer inspection the truth of the paradox becomes apparent, that being we must put our trust in God that "this too will pass." In that trust we overcome our weaknesses with hope. Jesus is our source of hope. That hope will lie in a manger in just a couple/few weeks. Therefore let us offer prayers of hope that we will overcome our suffering, fear and weakness; as our salvation will be found in a baby at Christmas.

Speaking of prayer, Bishop Battersby has prepared a 3-year pastoral plan of prayer. The first year he wants to spend more time with prayer, especially with the Sacred Heat. The 2nd year will be more dialogue with parishes and each other. The 3rd year will be dedicated to St. Joseph.

May all of you pray joyfully for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ,

Fr. Cryton

St. Mary Pastor & Council Chaplain



**The next council meeting is in
Reardon Hall, Tuesday
December 17th at 7 pm.**

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NEXT ISSUE: January-February 2025

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

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

Council Compass—Preparation & Charity

Kevin Quist, Grand Knight

Greetings, Worthy Brother Knights.

As we approach the Advent Season, schools are commencing their winter athletic programs and are beginning Christmas program preparations. Since our last Knight's Compass publication, we participated in the Fall Festivals at both Saint Mary's and Saint Patrick's; Saint Mary's celebrated their 125th Jubilee; we congratulate Worthy Brothers Tony Oldigs and Jeff Wojcik as they were welcomed into the 4th Degree during the exemplification held in Green Bay in October; we orchestrated the Punt, Pass and Kick competitions at the council and diocesan levels; we coordinated and completed distribution of two (2) cases of coats for "Coats for Kids"; we are supported "Sentiments for Seminarians" during the weekend masses, 30 November and 1 December; and we continue to support Saint Patrick's school students through monthly pancake breakfasts. I am hopeful each of these breakfasts are a great success and I extend my humble gratitude to the Knights who continually pitch in to support these great events. Our next pancake breakfast is December 8, so mark your calendars now.

I would again like to personally invite each of you to join us for "That Man Is You" program spearheaded by Brother Knight Howard Boppart. This program continues to meet weekly at the Mile Bluff Hospital conference room (2nd Floor). The session typically is one hour in duration and occurs every Friday morning at 6:30 AM.

Regarding our membership, we had two new Knights join our ranks. Please join me in welcoming Father Cruz and Mark Walsh (Saint Mary's) to our council. You will see Fr. Cruz's profile in this issue of the newsletter. We will have Mark's profile in the next issue. We are well on our way to achieving our membership goal for this year. Please remain diligent in approaching others to join us as well. Optimally, the best way to get new members to join is through one-on-one interaction. If you know a practicing Catholic man who is not a Knight, invite him to join us. If half our members did that and half of the men they asked said yes, we would far exceed our membership goals. This is your council – let's work together to keep it healthy and relevant.

Remember, our formation embraces a common goal... to love and serve the Lord.

Finally, especially during this time of the year let us not forget those in our community who are in need of our prayers and support. Whether it's a brother Knight who is struggling, a family member who is ill, or someone facing difficulties, our role is to stand with them, offering whatever help we can. If you know of any special intentions, please bring them to my attention so we can lift them up together in prayer.

May the Peace of Christ be with all of you and your families! Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas!

Vivat Jesus

Kevin Grand Knight
cell/text: 608-343-6968 Kevin.r.Quist@gmail.com

Dawning of a New (K)night—Fr Cruz

Steve Hesprich, Membership Director

Fr. Cruz has had a rapid journey to Knighthood in our Order. He came to the United States, his first time here, in July 2024 to serve our parish. He took over the pastorship of St. Patrick's September 4, 2024. Later in September he joined the Knights of Columbus at our monthly business meeting, Tuesday September 17, 2024.

Many do not realize how challenging it can be for anyone, and especially a priest, to come to the United



States for the first time. For example learning simple things for us, like driving on the opposite side of the road and car. In India, the cars travel in the opposite directions we do in the United States and the driver is on the right side of the front seat.

Fr. Cruz is from the Archdiocese of Madurai, the same diocese where Fr. Jey was from. Fr. Cruz has been a priest for five years. He is a young and energetic. He is very excited to be here with us. Every experience he has through these first many months is new. He had his first experience of enjoying a pancake breakfast hosted by our council and the 8th grade class.

He does have some surprising experiences too. His associations with schools in India include one where basketball was very active. He learned skills there and recently participated in a seminarian/clergy versus others in a basketball competition hosted by the Diocese of La Crosse.

Fr. Cruz was ordained a priest on April 28, 2019. He was an associate pastor for two years in two different parishes. He then served three years as Vice-Principal and teaching students in his diocesan school. He also was co-editor for the Archdiocese of Madurai, India diocesan monthly magazine. He has published three books about motivation and the life of Mother Mary and Joseph. His degree is in Literature and Education, with a Masters in psychology. He has been a resource for retreats, and seminars in various schools and colleges. On YouTube he has some 3,000 followers of motivational videos and spiritual talks. You may or may not know he now does a weekly Facebook video for our parish. If you wish to be subscribed to the email that posts the link each week, contact the parish administrator, Jennifer Laursen, in the parish office.

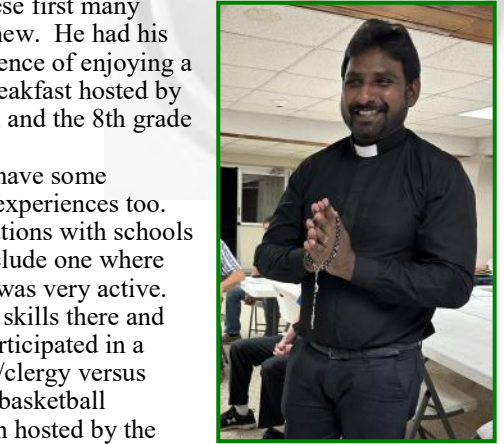
Welcome Fr. Cruz, to the United States, to St. Patrick's church and school, and to the Knights of Columbus!

The Dawn of Breakfast

Howard Boppart, Breakfast Chairman

As we enter December our council has already hosted two pancake breakfasts, one at St. Mary's in Lyndon Station in October, and the first of four at St. Patricks, in November, benefiting and assisted by St. Pat's 8th grade class. The December 7th grade pancake breakfast is Sunday, along with St. Nicolas, on December 8th. We hope

everyone can join us for a visit and photo with St. Nick, along with a hearty breakfast.



Fr. Cruz receiving the Rosary, gifted as part of joining the Knights



Pancake Breakfast November 10, 2024

Compass of Competition

by Jon Field, Punt Pass Kick Chairman

This fall our council hosted both council and diocesan Punt Pass Kick contests in September and October, respectively. We had roughly 30 8-12 year old boys and girls. The winners went on to the Diocesan competition



that was also hosted by our council at Mauston's High School football field in October. We had wonderful weather, and competitors from many



Punt



Pass



Kick



It takes volunteers to insure measurements are taken. Above, left to right is a volunteer father, Steve Powers and Kevin Quist

councils. We had an enthusiastic crowd of competitors, parents and grandparents at the Diocesan competition. It was a beautiful day and the children participated with the energy you would expect from 8 to 12 year olds.



Winners (1st thru 3rd place) of the La Crosse Diocesan Competition

The Unseen Benefits for Knights

Taken from Published Supreme Benefits

Aside from the numerous personal rewards that come from being a Knight, here is a partial list of the many substantial rewards for you and your family:

Columbia Magazine — Free subscription to the Order's award-winning magazine examining issues of concern to Knights, Catholics and families

Knights of Columbus rosary — Blessed by the supreme chaplain, presented during the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity to each new member

Mass of Remembrance Each Weekday — Celebrated for deceased members and their wives at St. Mary's Church, the birthplace of the Order

Insurance — Access to a portfolio of top-quality life insurance, long-term care insurance, disability income insurance and annuity products exclusive for members, their spouses and their dependent children

Family Fraternal Benefit* — Benefits for children of insured members that include guaranteed-issue insurability under age 18 and automatic death benefits for children dying before age 61 days

Orphan Fraternal Benefit* — Provides monthly benefits and college scholarships to each eligible orphan of insured members

Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit — Accidental death benefit for member in good standing and spouse at no additional cost

Widow Benefits — a) continues to be covered under the Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit; b) the surviving spouse of a Knights of Columbus insured may purchase life insurance, long-term care insurance or annuities after insured member's death; c) receives a free lifetime subscription to *Columbia*; d) eligible with her children for scholarships

Scholarships — Scholarship programs for higher education available to members, their spouses and children

Leadership Development — Opportunity to build personal leadership skills, public speaking ability, organizational skills, etc.

Compass of Minutes—September 2024

By Steve Hesprich, acting Recorder

After an opening prayer and pledge at 7 pm, we began with an exemplification of the Order, with our new pastor, Fr. Cruz Divakaran Iruthayam, becoming a Knight of Columbus. Welcome Fr. Cruz!

Minutes of the August 20, 2024 council meeting were approved as published in the July-Sept 2024 newsletter.

Chaplain's message: Both St. Mary and St Pat Fall Festivals were successful with wonderful weather for both. October is the month of the Rosary. St. Mary's had its 125th Jubilee celebration Mass with Bishop Battersby on September 22nd. The movie "Unplanned" will be shown in Bridget Hall on October 1st. It is a movie about the conversion of Planned Parenthood's youngest Director to become a strong pro-life supporter.

No Grand Knight report. PGK Steve gave brief report on the La Crosse Diocesan meeting held this past Saturday (9/14), attended by Steve and District Deputy Michael Haight. We had hoped to get our CPID check and proceeds from the Spring State Charities Raffle. Those checks were not yet ready. We hope to see those checks in October.

Treasurer's Report: after a reimbursement to Steve Hesprich for Ice Cream Social expenses of \$43.53. We had an ending general account balance of \$3,355.96; Charitable fund balance at BMO is \$2439.85, after a donation from Jeff Wojcik of \$250.

Membership Report: Fr. Cruz became a member of the Knights today at this meeting. Church drives were explained that include 2-3 minute pulpit talk at the end of Mass.

Life Report: The Juneau County ProLife Committee now has a website and email address: Website: www.prolifewijuneaucounty.org / Email: info@prolifewijuneaucounty.org. Next event is the "Life Chain" to be held Sunday October 6, 2024, from 2:30—4 pm. Meet inside the gate at the east end of the church property.

Faith Director: TMIY has started. It is weekly on Fridays from 6:30 am to 7:30 am. We start with a roughly 30 minute video followed by 15-25 minute discussion.

Family Report: Still need to start up the Family of the Month.

Community Report: The council Punt Pass and Kick (PPK) contest is Tuesday Sept 24th - starts with registration at 5 pm on the Mauston High School practice field located on the southwest area of the campus. We are also hosting the Diocesan competition Sunday October 20th, noon registration at the High School football field. We put in a bid to host the State competition but haven't heard yet if we have been selected. We conducted the chocolate milk shake machine at the St. Pat Fall Festival and received \$393 in proceeds. A motion was made and passed to donate the money to the St. Patrick school.

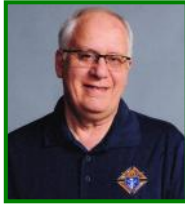
St Mary's Round table: had honor guard for the Jubilee celebration. The next round table meeting is Thursday October 24, 2024 in St. Bridget Hall at 6:30 pm. There is a Pancake Breakfast after the 9 am Mass on Sunday October 27th.

4th Degree Report: discussed subsidizing 1/2 of the exemplification cost of \$90. Defer that decision to a future meeting. Two members, Tony Oldigs and Jeff Wojcik are becoming 4th degree Knights at the exemplification in Green Bay, October 12, 2024. There is an exemplification in Platteville on October 19, 2024. The next assembly meeting is Monday October 21, 2024. You don't have to be a 4th degree member to attend the monthly dinner meetings. There is a Clergy Appreciation dinner (Fr. Cryton and Fr. Cruz invited) at the Tomah Knights Hall starting at 2 pm, dinner at 3 pm, on Sunday November 10, 2024. The 4th degree throughout the Order will be honoring Korean and Vietnam veterans who are Knights, for their service. If anyone has served in one of those conflicts let Steve Hesprich know.

District Deputy 20 report: Michael Haight noted membership, and activity events and reports needed. He passed out a business card used to help men initiate online membership.

New charity raffle tickets now available from Steve Powers. He presented a certificate to our council for achieving the insurance quota (photo right).

Insurance Report: Some of the basic insurance



benefits, for just being a member, have increased substantially. New Business: We are ordering 2 cases of Coats for Kids, one girls, one boys (resolution passed at August meeting).

Howard Boppart reported on looking at signage for St. Patrick's on the north side of Mauston (Hwy 58). Prayers were requested for Anna Boehm, Randy Boehm's mother who passed away this month; Ken Field, father of Jon Field, who is suffering from cancer; Kevin Quist who was not feeling well this evening; Mary Sensing (sp?) has cancer, a parishioner at St. Marys.

Compass of Minutes—October 2024

By Steve Hesprich, acting Recorder

After an opening prayer and pledge at 7 pm, we began with an exemplification of the Order, welcoming Mark Walsh of St. Mary's parish for becoming a Knight of Columbus. Welcome Mark!

Chaplain Report: Chaplain excused.

Grand Knight Report: Jon Field filling in for Kevin Quist. Suggestion of having December 17th meeting be a Christmas party instead of a business meeting. Idea of holding it at the Gravity Box though it is closed on our meeting night. We don't have to hold that event on a meeting night. Table to next Council meeting.

Treasurer's report: BMO Charity Fund \$3,439.35 one check for \$393 to St. Pat, and one deposit of the same amount, proceeds from the Milk Shake at Fall Festival. Bank of Mauston had no transactions. Balance \$3,355.96.

Membership Report: Have to talk with GK Kevin on possible November Church drive.

Life Director: Juneau County Pro-Life Committee which meets monthly had "Life Chain" event which is always held on the first Sunday of October. Signs for life shown along a short stretch of road from North Union Street at the Walgreens, south to over the bridge. The next event will be the Pro-Life March around the Juneau County Courthouse on Sunday afternoon January 26, 2025 at 1 pm beginning on the steps of the courthouse.

Faith Director: TMIY meeting weekly 6:30 am on Fridays in the 2nd floor Community Room of Mile Bluff Hospital. Community Director: Pancake Breakfasts—Oct 27th at St. Mary's, November 10th at St. Patrick, and December 8th, St. Patrick's. Howard Boppart brought up a previous discussion about re-doing the St. Patrick signage showing Mass times, located on Hwy 58 on the north side of town. More investigation is needed to insure proper authorization is followed. Jon Field will follow up with city on licensing. Family Director: Have not yet initiated a Family of the Month program this year. 4th Degree Report: Jeff Wojcik and Tony Oldigs became 4th degree Knights at the Green Bay exemplification on Saturday October 12th, Columbus Day. Supreme is requesting the names of Knights who served in the Korean or Vietnam conflicts for a census to recognize their contributions.

New Business: Coats for Kids—we received 2 cases of coats, one for boys, one for girls. Patrick Kelly is chairing the activity. Punt Pass & Kick is Sunday Oct 20th. Noon Registration, 1 pm start of competition at Mauston High School's football field.

New Business: St. Patrick needs to replace a refrigerator and one other Kitchen appliance. A resolution to donate \$500 was passed. Prayer intentions for Bridget Varga. Meeting was ended at 8:10 pm.

Compass of Minutes—November 2024

By Tom Jodarski, Recorder

The November 19, 2024 meeting was called to order at 7 pm. Following the opening prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, minutes of the Oct 15, 2024 meeting were approved as published [in this newsletter issue]. Chaplain's report: We open the door for others to experience God's presence. We are soon entering the season of Advent. The Bishop has prepared a 3-year pastoral plan. The first year he wants us to spend more time with prayer, especially with the Sacred Heart. The 2nd year will be more dialogue with parishes and each other. The 3rd year will be dedicated to St. Joseph. The next council meeting is Dec 17, 2024. Approval was given to have an Epiphany social in January 2025. Details will be forthcoming. Jan 11, 2025 will be the District 20 meeting, hosted by the Cashton council from 9 am to noon]. Treasurer's Report: \$4226.85 Charity Fund; \$3868.96 General Fund. Membership Report: We have two new members this year. The average age of our council members is 65 years old. Council Church Drive discussion will be needed with Fr. Cruz and Greg Helgerson, our field agent. GK to follow up.



Life Report: Pro-life march January 26, 2025, sponsored by the Juneau County Pro-Life Committee will take place at the Juneau County Courthouse in Mauston. Faith Report: A video was viewed on COR. COR is the Latin word for 'heart' and is a way for men, whether knights or not, to grow in their faith. Community Report: The next Pancake Breakfast is December 8th and will benefit and be served by the 7th grade class. \$896 was the gross proceeds of the November 10th breakfast. Updating/improving the sign on the north side of Mauston that promotes the Mass times at St. Pats would cost \$942. It would be a 4'x6' sign. Motion was approved to replace that sign, near the Harley Davidson on Hwy 58. Round Table: On Jan 23, 2025 6:30 pm there is a Round Table meeting at St. Mary's. March 9, 2025 is the next St. Mary's Pancake Breakfast. 4th Degree Report: Next assembly meeting is Dec 16th, a Christmas party at Pizones in Tomah.

District Deputy Report: We need everyone to help grow our membership—Save \$100 if we get a new member between Oct-Dec (we have one). Keep Christ in Christmas Contest with Kids making posters. Free Throw Contest—need to get materials and set a date. The District 20 meeting is January 11, 2025 in Cashton. Councils are encouraged to get something to Seminarians.

New Business: A motion was passed to pay the current bills, including our liability insurance renewal of \$315; and \$500 matching amount for the food bank through Mauston Bank. Also \$100 for 5 Mass intentions the next year (including the November 2, 2025 Memorial Mass at 8 am. Coats for Kids were given at the Pancake Breakfast and to the Juneau County Social Services, to be used in Juneau County.

Prayers requested for Patrick Kelly's sister Sheila who has Dementia. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Knights of the Round Table

Steve Hesprich, Round Table Coordinator

The Round table met on Thursday October 24th. A short video of the trailer for the new Supreme video series on Leadership was shown. We reviewed the Jubilee Celebration of September 22nd (see article on page 7). Final preparations for the October 27th Pancake Breakfast were discussed. The breakfast had all the serving places full.

The next Round Table meeting will be conducted Thursday January 23, 2025, 6:30 pm.



Granddaughter Natalie shows her choking affection for Brian Fox at the Pancake Breakfast

Compass of Leadership—Virtues

Steve Hesprich, Past Grand Knight

One of the particularly significant advances I've seen in my 25+ active years as a Knight are the multimedia advances along with the technology of Supreme made available at the council level. When I joined, Member Management was a primitive application you put on a PC that worked only on the PC it was installed. It was slow, it was awkward, prone to errors. Now it's an integrated, web based application with many features to make the work of the Grand Knight and Financial Secretary much easier. Reporting is less burdensome, and the number of online video aids are varied and coming with increasing frequency. One that has just appeared in the past couple of months is their Leadership video series. While Member Management is for the Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, and to a lesser extent, the Membership Director, the various program aids are available to the general membership. Many of these can assist Knights not only in their Knights involvements, but in their life. I would go so far to say that they help men, and others, in their life in general and especially as they seek, or perhaps have thrust upon them, leadership: Leadership in the family, faith, community, and in work lives.

The title of the new series is "The Leadership Virtues Series". Its stated purpose is "become a Christ-centered leader as you discover the virtues of moral leadership, based on Jesus' example." The series has a 2-minute trailer and then 8 sessions of an average of roughly 9 minutes each with the shortest 6:20 minutes and the longest 13:25. The topics include:

1. The Rationale for a Christ-Centered Approach to Leadership
2. What is Moral Virtue?
3. Prayer—the First Habit
4. Passion and Leadership
5. Magnanimity and Leadership
6. The Paradox of Humble Leadership
7. Magnanimity and Taking a Stand
8. Humility and Emotional Intelligence

For those who view all the segments, there is a certificate of completion that can be downloaded.

To see more details and to view the video series, go to:

<https://www.kofc.org/un/en/campaigns/leadership-series.html>

This series highlights what the Knights are emphasizing as to their purpose. Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly has said "If we get the man right, we get everything right – the marriage, the family, the parish, the community. We need men who will say 'yes' to their God-given vocation." That vocation means leadership in virtue.



Knights of Columbus.

Gregory Helgerson, FIC
Field Agent
Cell: 608-462-3372
gregory.helgerson@kofc.org



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4th Watch of the (K)night

Matthew 14:25



Veterans Know the Flag

Steve Hesprich, Committee Chair - "God Country Flag" patriotic program. 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"

My greatest inspiration for high regard of our national flag are veterans. It is not hard to deeply appreciate the importance of the United States Flag because so many veterans have put their life on the line. I see no veteran, even if they did not see combat, who didn't have a high regard for this emblematic symbol of our freedom. My sense is that even if they had doubts going into military service about the importance of the flag and their role in the military, they come out of service with a high regard for the flag of our country.



November 11th is certainly one of just a few times where we see the fervor of patriotism from among those who did not serve, but are reminded of those who did. How do we insure that reverence is held by all throughout the year, not just on the occasion of events such as Veterans' Day? The "God Country Flag" program our assembly is building will be another remembrance, a reinforcement, of the deepness of such a patriotic regard.

We invite donations to help with the needed funding to establish and build this program. Contact Steve at c:608-400-2638 / Steve@Hesprich.com to make your contribution.

125th Anniversary Exemplification

Steve Hesprich, Honor Guard Member

On Thursday, February 22, 1900, in honor of George Washington's birthday, the Knights of Columbus celebrated the first Patriotic Exemplification of the Fourth Degree; the visible arm of the Order. The degree was held in the Lenox Lyceum in New York City with 1,100 candidates in attendance.

On Saturday, February 22, 2025, the Knights of Columbus will return to New York City to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Fourth Degree within the historic walls of America's parish church - Saint Patrick's Cathedral. We invite all members to begin planning for this historic event by encouraging 3rd degree members to join the patriotic degree in the 125th anniversary year. The new degree format that allows guests to attend is expected to be rolled out at the New York City exemplification.



Two exemplifications are planned in Wisconsin this Spring, with details forthcoming. The first is Saturday April 12, 2025 in Green Bay. The second will take place Saturday May 3, 2025 in Rhinelander. It is unclear if these two exemplifications will be done with the new format, or use the current method. Either format is well worth experiencing. 2025 is a memorable time to join the 4th degree of patriotism.

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

Watch of the Knights & Ladies

Steve Hesprich, Honor Guard Member

Janet and Jeff married 51 years ago on October 12, 1973. Tony & Laurie Oldigs married October 29, 1999, 25 years ago. Their wives Janet and Laurie are sisters. Both couples travelled to Green Bay for Jeff and Tony to become 4th degree Knights of Columbus in the exemplification held there Saturday October 12, 2024—the actual Columbus Day.

The exemplification was hosted by Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Green Bay, WI. The Honoree was the Most Rev. David L. Ricken, Bishop of Green Bay.



From left to right: Janet & Jeff Wojcik, Steve Hesprich, Tony and Laurie Oldigs.

Census of Military Service

Steve Hesprich

Nationally the 4th degree is facilitating an ongoing census of brother knights who served in either the Korean or Vietnam Wars, regardless of the KC degree they hold.



Each such member will be presented with a certificate of recognition for their role in either of those conflicts. If you or a knight you know served, please let Steve Hesprich know and he will arrange for the registering of that member. Both of these conflicts had their detractors but in looking back at a service member's involvement, we honor the sacrifices they made.

4th Watch of the (K)night

Matthew 14:25



The Compass of Jubilee

Steve Hesprich, Honor Guard Member

On Sunday September 22, 2024 St. Mary's in Lyndon Station the parish celebrated the 125th Jubilee of the building of the current church. Bishop Gerard Battersby was the main celebrant. An honor guard of 8 accompanied the procession into the church. After a group photo everyone went to St. Bridget hall for a grand luncheon. The former pastor, Fr. Clayton was also in attendance, with many parishioners very happy to greet him.

In pastor Fr. Cryton's bulletin message he thanked all the pastors who have served the parish as well as the generations of parishioners. He went



After the Jubilee Mass all in attendance gathered in front of the church for a photo including the honor guard.

on to say "Faithfulness, generosity and steadfast support have been instrumental in nurturing the parish community."

Even as the 125th anniversary of the church building is celebrated, the parish looks forward in two years, the 175th anniversary of the parish itself, the oldest active parish in the entire diocese of La Crosse.

Deacon Tom Hale in the same bulletin commented "I am always amazed, yet never amazed to see the commitment of the parishioners in working to keep our parish alive and growing. It's a blessing to talk to parish members whose grandparents or great grandparents helped build this church."

Bishop Battersby sent a letter to the parish in which he stated "Over the years the faithful of St. Mary's have been a shining light witnessing the presence of Jesus Christ and His Church."

This celebration is the first time that the parish has experienced a 4th degree Knights of Columbus Honor Guard. It won't be the last time. An honor guard will also be present when the parish hosts the area parishes for Confirmation on May 20, 2025.



The honor guard led the procession from the rectory, into the church to begin the liturgy.

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

Memorializing our Members

By Steve Hesprich

It is of great importance to pray for the deceased. Our annual Memorial Mass honored the deceased members of



From left to right: Jared Kasten, Dave Dechant, Larry Dechant, Fr. Cruz, a new Knight of Columbus, Steve Hesprich and honor guard commander Frank DiBenedetto

the Solomon Juneau Council 2770 on Sunday November 3, 2025 at the 8 am

Mass. The Francis Heindl Assembly 1902 provided an honor guard. During Mass, GK Kevin Quist read the names of deceased members of the council from roughly the last 10 years. For Fr. Cruz who became a Knight in September, just a coupe of months after coming to the United States from India, this was his first experience with a Knights Honor Guard.

Next year's Memorial Mass is scheduled for Sunday November 2, 2025 (All Souls Day) at the 8 am Mass.

Gerald	Boehm	2021
Robert	Boehm	2017
Br James	Boyle	2018
Michael	Brown	2018
Peter	Conway	2015
Timothy	Curran	2021
Charles	Druba	2015
Herbert	Finger	2020
John	Grzenia, PGK	2016
David	Hamm	2024
Dennis	Kolba	2020
Frank	Machnik	2021
John	Mc Gowan	2014
Ray	Moriarty	2024
Daniel	Moser	2021
Fr. Thomas	Reardon	2010
Fr. Arnold	Reuter	2015
Ernest	Schmocker	2022
Jeff	Schwab	2015
William	Smith	2017
Harold	Smith	2020
Gerald	Steiner	2014
Donald	Strack	2016
John	Sustar	2019
James	Theusch	2015
Donald	Van Pee	2014
Francis	Walsh	2017
Robert	Walsh	2022
Tom	Zolondek, PGK	2022

REQUIREMENTS (DECEMBER)	
8	St. Patrick's 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Pancake Breakfast Benefit for 7th Grade (Second Sunday) / Reardon Hall (Basement)
9	SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
16	Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly / KC 1902 / PIZONES (202 Superior Ave), Tomah 5:00 PM Social / 5:30 PM Order (Menu) / 6:00 PM Dinner Dress: Social Baldric with Business Attire
17	KC 2770 Council Meeting (7:00 PM) / NO Officer Meeting (Reardon Hall, St Patrick's, Mauston) Exemplification Ceremony (Preceding Council Meeting)

DECEMBER 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

REQUIREMENTS (DECEMBER)	
18	Fraternal Benefits Night (Virtual)
25	CHRISTMAS DAY (Observed)
29	St. Patrick's 8:00 AM Mass Intention - Council Knights

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - SOLOMON JUNEAU COUNCIL 2770 CALENDAR

REQUIREMENTS (JANUARY)	
1	NEW YEAR'S DAY (Observed)
1	SOLEMNITY OF MARY - MOTHER OF GOD
12	St. Patrick's 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Pancake Breakfast Benefit for 6th Grade (Second Sunday) / Reardon Hall (Basement)
20	MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY (Observed)
20	Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly / KC 1902 / Location (TBD) 5:00 PM Social / 5:30 PM Order (Menu) / 6:00 PM Dinner

JANUARY 2025						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

REQUIREMENTS (JANUARY)	
21	KC 2770 Council Officer Meeting (6:30 PM) KC 2770 Council Meeting (7:00 PM) / (Reardon Hall, St Patrick's, Mauston) Exemplification Ceremony (Preceding Council Meeting)
23	Knights of the Round Table Meeting (6:30 PM), St. Mary's, Lyndon Station
26	KC 2770 Council Freethrow Competition (10:00 AM) Location: Saint Patrick's Catholic School - Mauston, WI
29	Fraternal Benefits Night (Virtual)

REQUIREMENTS (FEBRUARY)	
9	St. Patrick's 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Pancake Breakfast Benefit for 5th Grade (Second Sunday) / Reardon Hall (Basement)
17	PRESIDENT'S DAY (Observed)
17	Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly / KC 1902 / Location (TBD) 5:00 PM Social / 5:30 PM Order (Menu) / 6:00 PM Dinner

FEBRUARY 2025						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

REQUIREMENTS (FEBRUARY)	
18	KC 2770 Council Officer Meeting (6:30 PM) KC 2770 Council Meeting (7:00 PM) / (Reardon Hall, St Patrick's, Mauston) Exemplification Ceremony (Preceding Council Meeting)
26	Fraternal Benefits Night (Virtual)

REQUIREMENTS (MARCH)	
4	FAT TUESDAY
5	ASH WEDNESDAY
9	St. Mary's Pancake Breakfast (9:00 AM) / St Bridget Hall (Basement)
15 (T)	Council Church Drive
16 (T)	Council Church Drive

MARCH 2025						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

REQUIREMENTS (MARCH)	
17	Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly / KC 1902 / Location (TBD) 5:00 PM Social / 5:30 PM Order (Menu) / 6:00 PM Dinner
18	KC 2770 Council Officer Meeting (6:30 PM) KC 2770 Council Meeting (7:00 PM) / (Reardon Hall, St Patrick's, Mauston) Exemplification Ceremony (Preceding Council Meeting)
26	Fraternal Benefits Night (Virtual)

Officers 2024-2025

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

2024-2025 Appointed Positions

Fr. Cryton Outschoorn	Chaplain
Randy Boehm	Financial Secretary
Open	Lecturer
Kevin Quist	Program Director
Jon Field	Community Director
Steven Hesprich	Family Director
Howard Boppart	Faith Director
Open	Life Director
Steven Hesprich	Membership Director
Michael Haight	District Deputy 20

Steps to Join the Knights for 1st Year FREE:

1. Go to www.kofc.org/join (or scan QR Code)
2. Complete application, (5 minutes), enter council # 2770, & promo code **GHELGERSON** (after entering, press "Add")
3. Attend online virtual ceremony



Contact Steve Hesprich for questions on steps 1 & 2. You will be contacted for step 3. 608-400-2638 / Steve@Hesprich.com

Knight's Compass is a bi-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.