

Owatonna



Council 945

The Key

to greater Council unity



COLUMBIAN CENTER

820 Elm Avenue South
P.O. Box 623
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-451-6103

KC LOUNGE

Open: Mon-Sat 3:30-12:30
Happy hour Mon-Fri 4:00-6:00 pm
Free Hors d'oeuvres during
Friday happy hour.

BAR BINGO

Every Tuesday in the

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Officers' Meeting - KC Hall,
First Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
General Meeting - KC Hall,
Second Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Fourth Degree Meeting - KC Hall,
Fourth Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

KC WEBSITE

Visit our website
www.kofcouncil945.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 1- Officers' and Gambling Meeting
April 8- General Meeting - Cancelled
April 18- 34th Annual St. Mary's Night of Knights Online Auction



COMING EVENTS

OFFICERS' MEETING

Monday, April 1.

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 8
CANCELLED

MOST REV. BISHOP JOHN QUINN BISHOP OF WINONA-ROCHESTER

Beginning Friday, March 20, 2020, in the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, all public Sunday and weekday Masses will be suspended for the next eight weeks, through Friday, May 15, 2020. On or before that date, a decision will be made to continue or to lift the restriction on public Masses. The faithful of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester will continue to be dispensed from their Sunday obligation for the duration of this time that public Masses are suspended. During this time, Perpetual Adoration will also be suspended.

URGENT MESSAGE – COVID-19

The number one priority of the Knights of Columbus is safety. Safety of our members, their families, our staff, vendors and the public in general.

With that being said, the events and activities mentioned in this issue of The Key may be subject to change or cancellation. Should this be necessary, we will utilize our local media and email to notify members of this change

Rest assured, as officers, we will strive to meet all requirements as set forth by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and at the same time continue our important work – from protecting the faith and financial stability of members' families, to helping members put their faith into action by providing important charitable service within our community.

SACRED HEART MASS ON YOUTUBE

Here is the link to Sacred Heart YouTube channel. Go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and just search for Sacred Heart Owatonna and you will recognize the new Altar and Fr. Sauer:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=sacred+heart+church+owatonna+

CHRISM MASS

Watch Sacred Heart website for updates.

POSTPONED BENEFIT BREAKFAST

Benefiting the
St. Vincent DePaul Society and
Hospitality House

CELEBRATION OF SERVICE

Date to be determined for the
Knights of Columbus Council 945
"Celebration of Service"

(Formerly the Awards Banquet)

Speaker will be Leif Arvidson,

Executive Director of Shrine of

Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Social Hour: 5:00 to 5:45 p.m.

Dinner: 5:45 p.m.

Awards: 6:15 to 7:00 p.m.

Speaker: 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15/individual or \$25/couple,
limited number of tickets available.

Contact Lee Jardine (651) 247-2963 or
Mark at the KC Hall to buy tickets.



SHRINE OF
OUR LADY OF
GUADALUPE
La Crosse, Wisconsin

34TH ANNUAL NIGHT OF KNIGHTS ONLINE AUCTION

St. Mary's School Benefit Auction

Saturday, April 18

Silent Auction

Live Auction

Many different raffles

For more information go to

<https://one.bidpal.net/smsnok> to register and view
auction packages and baskets

Follow us on Facebook: "Night of Knights Auction"

A benefit for St. Mary's School

Raffle Tickets Still Available: Call/Text Jeff Hall
at (507) 213-4619

Chaplain's Message by Rev. James Starasinich

Dear Brother Knights,

As of this writing (March 13), we are experiencing a sense of helplessness in the face of the coronavirus. It is certainly a test of faith, for we are being confronted with our mortality. We may think, "This is not something we have time for in our busy 21st century lives, as we have been known to overcome problems before they arise." Our technology has often worked wonders to the point that we are no longer surprised but instead expect that to be the standard way of life. Yet, I cannot help recall the words *Memento mori* that we, as Knights, have become accustomed to.

We are not called to be morbid but we are called to live in reality. Some saints are depicted holding a skull, contemplating their own mortality. As we go through these latter days of Lent, it is good for us to examine our lives and discover the need to repent, or as some say, to get our act in order. We are preparing for the victory of all victories, which is what the celebration of Easter is all about. Our faith in Jesus Christ is unique from all other faiths on the planet because the answer to mortality came through the God-Man, Jesus Christ. Orthodox Christians greet one another during this festive season with "Christ is Risen!" The other responds, "He is Risen indeed!" or "He is truly Risen!" Let us remain vigilant in prayer and continue our works of charity because all we do is for the greater glory of God!

Vivat Jesus!

Benefits by Michael Flanagan



If you have questions or need help with your KC Insurance program call or email Michael.

Michael Flanagan
Phone number: (507) 696-6633
E-mail: michael.flanagan@kofc.org



John 11:25-26. Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."

Grand Knight's Message by Tom Jirele

Dear Brother Knights,

Coronavirus is very serious and can be deadly. As a nation we need to remain strong and support our leaders. We should avoid large groups and stay at home as much as possible. While at home let's look for positive things as it is a great opportunity to read the bible or pray for our nation, community, friends, and family. As a Knight, we always want to help our brothers and our community, but let's do it intelligently. Avoid contact and wash our hands whenever possible. There are a lot of events that have been postponed or cancelled. At this time we will not be able to make any donations. All Masses have been cancelled at least until May 15. Please remember your Church today during this time as there are still expenses.

I would especially would like to thank Grady Strand, Randy Balausky, Lee Jardine, Father Sauer, and Father Starasinich for making the Chris Lewis Wheelchair Drive a success.

It is much appreciated all the time and effort put in making the pancake breakfasts and fish dinners as successful throughout the year.

These are the times that put us to the test and see what we are really made of.

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the Lord.

Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand, one belonging to him, and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints.

He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddened times in his life. This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord.

"Lord, You said that You'd walk with me all the way. But during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. "Why did you leave me when I needed You most?"

The Lord replied, "My precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Remember you never walk alone. As people of faith, the Lord is always with us even in our most difficult hours. God is there to carry us.

Membership by LaVerne Klecker

Congratulations to our new member exemplified on February 24.

We will be having an Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity in the near future at the KC Hall in Owatonna. This would involve receiving a lesson on the Knights of Columbus principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. We need to recruit 15 more new members to be eligible for Star Council. If you need any help in signing up your new member give me a call at (507) 451- 4102. Don't wait any longer, call, and visit your prospective member today. Explain our Council's accomplishments and invite them to join us, they will thank you.

The members in the KCs who are involved in our projects have a lot of enthusiasm and enjoy the projects that they participate in. We need to continue to sign up new members to provide us with new ideas for projects that we could bring into our Council.

All members have recently received their new 2020 dues statement. Please get your dues paid as soon as you can. We need the money from our dues to make ends meet for our Council expenses.

If you have any questions, please call me at (507) 451-4102 or my cell phone (507) 456-6738.

BENEFIT LENTEN FISH DINNERS

Anyone who was planning on attending to support the following beneficiaries:

Grandparents For Education
SeniorPlace Inc.
Civil Air Patrol
Boy Scout Troop 253
Msgr. Henry Speck Assembly
St. Joseph Music Ministry
Izaak Walton League

have been postponed. We will keep you informed in future *Key* issues as to when these will be held.

FALL FISHING TRIP

Once again, we are planning a Fall Fishing Trip to Cut Foot Sioux (off the NE corner of Lake Winnibigoshish) and there is room for you to join the trip. The reserved dates start Sept. 26. You could have a four-day trip, or make a whole week of it. Fishing has been good on this trip during the past few years – and the fall color scenery is really nice as well. The trip includes one free dinner (usually Sunday) provided by Mark and the Columbian Center. For more info, please contact Walt Spindler (507) 451-7613. Would be glad to have you along.



TOOTSIE ROLL FUND-RAISER

For people with Developmental Disabilities

Collected funds are disbursed to local organizations, with the exception of a small percentage (5%), which helps fund the Fall Classic Special Olympic events held in the Twin Cities.

Date to be determined

At these locations: Cash Wise, Fareway Foods, & HyVee

Help us set a new record!

To help, please use the link on the KC Website -

www.kofccouncil945.org to sign up. or call Tony David at (507) 475-2040 or Grady Strand at (507) 456-1788.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BENEFIT BREAKFAST SCHEDULE - 2020

May 3 Owatonna Clay Target Team - Postponed
May 31 Smokin' in Steele

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER EXEMPLIFIED ON FEBRUARY 24



Sean Pick and his wife, Hilary, have one son, Ethan, and two daughters, Grace and Paige. They are members of Sacred Heart Parish. He is employed at Federated Insurance as an Executive Vice President Director of Insurance Operations. He was sponsored by Brother Sir Knight LaVerne Klecker.

BLESSING OF THE ALTAR—SACRED HEART



On Sunday, February 16 the Blessing of the Altar was held at Sacred Heart Parish. Pictured above from left to right are: Randy Balausky, IHM Seminarian, Greg Nelson, Deacon Placido Zavala, Deacon Pat Fagan, Walt Spindler, Bishop John Quinn, Earl Wheeler, LaVerne Klecker, Father John Sauer, Tom Bremer, Steve Graff, Gary Wandrey, Guest Priest of Fr. John, and Father Joe Pete.

BEEN A TOUGH STRETCH FOR BREAKFASTS LATELY

The February 9 event, the annual Valentine Breakfast, was cancelled due an impending snow storm. The Saturday Prep crew had it all set to go – and Ol' Man Winter took over from there.

Two weeks later, however, Steele County 4-H purple Ribbon Club breakfast went off without a hitch. A number of tickets from the previous event showed up – and a good turnout kept the cooks and servers busy feeding 390 hungry customers.

Thanks to the Saturday Prep crew: *Jerry Barry, Tony David, Bob Grebe, Al Nelson, John Oberstein, Lyle Snider, Matt Thurnau, Ken Thurnau, Earl Wheeler, Ray Willmott, and Ron Wolf.*

And to the Sunday crew as well: *Pat Baldwin, Tim Chicos, Tony David, Tom Docksey, Steve Dornquast, Steve Fisher, Kevin Gallagher, Richard Gerds, Vince and Tara Guggisberg, Jeff Hall, Ron Heim, Lee Jardine, Nick Jirele, Tom Jirele, Jim Kaplan, Joe Kearin, Dennis Kelm,*

LaVerne Klecker, Doug Kloos, Terry Kuck, Braden and Izzy Leonard, Reegan Lindholm, Al Macius, Al Nelson, Dan Newkirk, Mark Pfeifer, Steve Roden, Lavern Soukup, Grady Strand, Troy Titus, Jeff Vortherms, Dan Wolfe, and Dave Wunderlich.

Then along came the Ides of March (the 15th) with the planned breakfast for the St. Mary's Music Boosters. As we are all aware, the Covid-19 virus was rearing its ugly head – in its early stages here – and escalating every day. Again, the Saturday Prep crew did their job – and then the word came out – Cancelled.

So one out of three the past few weeks isn't good – and we don't see much improvement in the near future.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS REGIONAL FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

The Knights of Columbus regional free throw championship was held in Rochester on Sunday, March 8th and three local shooters won their age groups.

The local winners:

10 year old: Gavin Purman

12 year old: Carsten Invgalson

13 year old: Jacob Ginskey



Left to right: - Carsten Invgalson (Blooming Prairie), Gavin Purman (Owatonna), Jacob Ginskey (Owatonna)



POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER TO MARY DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.





New Ceremony: Rooted in Past, Tailored for Present

At the State Deputy meeting in November 2019, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson announced a historic moment for the Order — the introduction of a new and groundbreaking combined exemplification ceremony, highlighting the principles of charity, unity and fraternity. Here are excerpts from his speech.

A new generation of Knights

“We must forge a new generation of Knights — men who see in our principles of charity, unity and fraternity a path to leading a Catholic way of life that can strengthen their families, their parishes and their communities. We must reach a new generation of men by the witness of our charity, our brotherhood and our ceremonials.”

Inspire the men of our day

“Just as our forefathers rallied to meet the challenges of their day, we must inspire the men of our day. We must reach out to meet these men where they are. And when we do, we must show them that they are called to be men of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. Because of this we are acting to make our Order more inviting and more accessible.”

New exemplification

“Early in the new year we will offer a new exemplification ceremony. ... This new ceremonial is rooted in our past and tailored to our present. It will inspire more men to join us. Most of all, it will empower the Knights of Columbus to advance our mission and grow in the years ahead.”

Why the change

“In recent decades, we have found it harder to bring men, especially young fathers, into the Order. When we ask them why, they tell us three ceremonies are too time-consuming and too difficult to attend. They tell us that secrecy is unnecessary.”

What the new exemplification looks like

“Instead of having separate ceremonies, all three degrees can now be conferred in a single ceremony. The new exemplification focuses on the history and principles of our Order. It presents a fuller and richer understanding of who we are, what we stand for and what we are called to be. It harkens back to the simple ceremonies of Unity and Charity first approved by Father McGivney. Our new ceremony can be held in a council chamber or in the parish with families and friends seated in the pews. They will see firsthand, the organization that their husbands, fathers, brothers, sons and friends are joining — the principles and values they are committing to and why it matters.”

[See the reverse side for questions and answers about the new exemplification](#)

Questions and Answers about the new exemplification

Why have these changes been made?

The future of our Order depends upon growth, and to grow, we need a way to join that is inviting and accessible. The new combined ceremony removes the barriers of secrecy and commitment of time that inhibited many from joining our ranks. It also eliminates redundancies and presents the lessons of charity, unity and fraternity in a more clear and convincing way.

What is the difference between the new degree exemplification and the old ceremonies?

Instead of having separate closed-door ceremonies, all three degrees can now be conferred in a single ceremony held in the parish, or in a council chamber.

Who can attend the new degree exemplification?

The new ceremony is open to guests, including the family and friends of current and new Knights.

Should First and Second Degree members participate?

Encourage First and Second Degree members to participate in the Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. These members should also be invested with a rosary and lapel pin, even though they received them at their First Degree ceremony. At the conclusion of the ceremony, they are Third Degree members.

Are online members allowed to participate?

Online members can participate and then transfer into your council. The transfer details can be handled afterwards. If an online member wishes to remain in the Online Division (Council), his wishes should be respected.

There is no pledge of secrecy in this ceremony. How do members handle the promises they made during the original ceremonies?

Promises made in previous ceremonies should be honored.

Will knighting be conducted using a sword?

Knighting with a sword will be reserved for Exemplification of Patriotism, when the member becomes a "Sir Knight."

2019-20 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain: Fr. James Starasinich
 Grand Knight: Tom Jirele (507) 213-9765
 Deputy Grand Knight: Lee Jardine
 Chancellor: Richard Gerds
 Advocate: Grady Strand
 Warden: Mike Schroeder
 Inside Guard: Eric Wandersee
 Outside Guard: Dean Schuette
 Financial Secretary: Dan Wolfe (PGK)
 Treasurer: Tom Eichten
 Recorder: Greg Nelson
 Trustee (3 year): PGK Gary Sanford
 Trustee (2 year): PGK Nic Matejcek
 Trustee (1 year): PGK Dan Sawyer

Directors and Chairmen

Program Director: Lee Jardine (DGK)
 Membership Director: LaVerne Klecker (PGK)
 Adv/Publicity Director: Dan Wolfe (PGK)
 Aid & Assistance: Greg Nelson
 KC Chorus Director Stephen Nelson
 Building Director Tom Elbert
 Director of Faith Activities: Dave Lax (PGK)
 Director of Family Activities Nic Matejcek (PGK)
 Dir. of Life Activities: Open
 Dir. of Community Activities: Lee Jardine
 Gambling Manager: Terry Evans
 District Deputy: Gary Sanford (PGK)
 KC Hall Manager: Mark Cunningham (PGK)
 Field Agent: Michael Flanagan

Knight of the Month



Joe Kearin

This month we honor Joe Kearin as our Knight of the Month for March. Joe joined our Council in November 2018. He was sponsored by his father, long-time Brother Knight Mark Kearin.

Joe was born and raised in Owatonna. Following his graduation from Owatonna High School, Joe attended Dakota State University in Madison, South Dakota, where he earned a degree in Computer Science. He is currently employed with Federated Insurance in their Security Department.

Joe has one brother, Jacob, and is a member of St. Joseph Parish. In his free time Joe enjoys reading and playing video and board games with his friends.

Joe has been an active member in his short time with our Council, volunteering his time for projects including benefit breakfasts, Smokin' in Steele and Salvation Army bell ringing to name a

few.

Joe says he enjoys his membership with the KC's as he gets a good feeling while helping with projects that support needy causes such as Special Olympics. We thank Joe for continuing his family tradition of Knighthood and we congratulate him on being nominated as our Knight of the Month.

Aid & Assistance by Greg Nelson



Please remember in your prayers and thoughts all of our sick or injured members of the Knights of Columbus and their families. Let's also offer up prayers for all deceased members and their families.

The KCs' prayers and good wishes go out to:

Brother Sir Knight Carl Adams is recovering from hip replacement.
Brother Sir Knight Tim Rice is recovering from shoulder surgery.
 Let us be united in prayer for those facing ongoing challenges:
Les Abraham, Dan Bauer, Julie Bauer, John Berning, Ted Blockey, Barb Claeys, Pete Connor, Sylvia Dalle, Jim Deml, Margaret Deml, Jack Dilleuth, Marilyn Dilleuth, Lois Doyle, Joanne Fagan, Jan Fandel, Terri Grose, Otto Havelka, Rose Hoffman, Lorraine Jirele, Harlan Kern, Tom Kingsley,

Jim Klecker, Larry Klocek, Marlys Knight, Mary Lax, Gil Mamer, Mary Mamer, Msgr. James McCauley, Mary Meixner, Suzanne Miedema, Father Ed Mountain, Dorothy Mulert, Darlene Mumm, Mark Nelson, Willard Peterson, Karen Pirkl, Kevin Raney, Steve Roden, Pat Rose, Paul Schneider, Mike Seykora, Ivan Snorek, Jeanine Snyder, Duane Spindler, Eugene Spindler, Dick Thamert, Garrett Thigpen, Mary Lou Thurnau, Robert Vosejпка, Joe Wagner, Eric Wandersee, Gary Wandrey, Jerry Weber, Jim Wiggins, Irene Wierzbinski, Jim Wierzbinski, Shirley Wierzbinski, Steve Wiese, and Tim Ziemke.

If anyone knows of a Brother Knight who is sick or injured, please call Greg Nelson at (507) 676-1748.

Dues Reminder: Annual dues renewals have been mailed out. Please pay your annual dues as soon as possible and make arrangements to pay any past-due dues. State and Supreme Council continues to charge Council #945 for all members, so it is essential that we collect our dues in a timely manner to pay these on behalf of each member and to allow us to do all we do as a Council.

HELP WANTED

Benefit Breakfast Committee, looking for volunteers to help with the benefit breakfasts, either on the Saturday morning prep team or the Sunday morning crew. We are still in great need of a Director of Life Activities. Please contact Tom Jirele at (507) 213-9765.



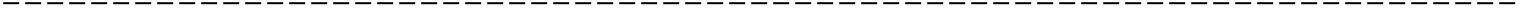
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 Council No. 945
 P.O. Box 945
 Owatonna, MN 55060
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**Postponed - Benefit Breakfast
 for St. Vincent DePaul Society &
 Hospitality House
 Sunday, April 5 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 St. Mary's School**

**Postponed Benefit
 Lenten Fish Dinners**

Nonprofit Organization
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 Owatonna, MN



APRIL 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	1 Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting- 7:30 pm	2	3	4
5 Postponed Benefit Breakfast St. Mary's School 8:00 am-12:00 pm for St. Vincent DePaul Society & Hospitality House	6	7	8 General Meeting Cancelled	9	10 	11
12 	13	14	15	16	17	18 34th Annual Night of Knights Online Auction
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		