

KC STATE NEWSLETTER

"PUT OUT INTO THE DEEP"

DECEMBER 2023

BROTHERS, WE ARE now four months into the Fraternal Year. A third of the Fraternal Year is behind us. Tempus Fugit. We are off to a slow start. Membership growth is down about 20% from last year. ASAP donations are down significantly from last year. At the same time, Councils in Wisconsin donated over 7000 Coats for Kids this fall. We have one new Council and two more being actively worked on. 15 Districts and 42 Councils have met more than 33% of their Membership Goals and are on track for Star Recognition.

As we started the Fraternal Year, Councils were asked to put a plan in place to meet their Star Council goals. District Deputies were challenged to work with the Councils in their Districts to ensure that every District has at least one Star Council.

Is your Council on track to be a Star Council? Is your District on track to be a Star District? If you don't know, ask at your next Council meeting. In the 2022-2023 Fraternal Year, Wisconsin had 41 Star Councils and 9 Star Districts. This success is significant. Councils and Districts that earned these recognitions need to Celebrate their Success and Invite others to Join them.

Often, I hear Councils say that they just want to help people, and they are not looking to earn awards. The problem with this statement is that there is far more need in our communities than we are currently able to address with our programs. If Councils are really going to help people, we must start with prayer, identify programs that will meet the needs of their Parish and Community, help our members grow in faith and charity, and then invite others to join us with our programs. Archbishop Lori reminds us that "Faith leads to charity and the witness of charity leads to faith."

We all joined the Knights of Columbus to make a difference, and Star Council recognition is designed to recognize Councils that are making a difference and are growing to meet the needs of their Parishes and Communities. Star Councils are focused on Growth in Programs, Fraternal Benefits, and Membership. Star Council does not just happen, but rather happens by Councils having a Goal of being a Star Council, and then planning for success by putting together a calendar of Programs, Fraternal Benefit Events, and Membership Drives to support this Goal. Once this plan is in place, the Council must work together to ensure Success. Does your Council have a Plan for Success? Is your Council executing your Plan?

For Districts, Star Districts do not just happen, rather District Deputies must work with all of the Councils in their District to ensure that Programs, Fraternal Benefit Events, and Membership Intake occurs. In short, District Deputies work with Councils to create a Plan for Success, and then follow up to make sure that the plan is followed.

Circle of Honor Recognition at the State Level requires similar planning and working together to ensure that Councils, Districts, and Diocese all succeed in meeting their goals. Circle of Honor is not an award for the State Officers, rather it is a recognition that the State Council is functioning well and supporting its Councils in succeeding in growing in faith and Charity. The Wisconsin State Council received Circle of Honor recognition the past 2 Fraternal Years and is working hard to achieve this recognition again this year.

At all levels, success is a Team Effort. A Plan is put in place, and then everyone works together to ensure success.

Wisconsin got off to a Slow Start this Fraternal Year. That is OK, as long as we stay focused on Success. In sports, they frequently say that the last 2 minutes of the first and first few minutes of the second half are the most important. As a State Council, we are currently focused on the last few days of the first half by offering an exciting Incentive. For every 5 new members that a Council brings in between December 1 and December 25, the State



Council will provide that Council with a \$100 Per Capita credit. This incentive is not capped. If a Council brings in 10 members between these dates, they get a \$200 credit. The State Team hopes that this Incentive will help us to ensure more Councils are on track to be Star Councils this Fraternal Year.

Diocesan Meetings are scheduled again this December. These are scheduled early in the month to try to avoid conflicts with Holiday gatherings. Our Wisconsin Bishops have stepped up to support these meetings, and each of these meetings will have a Keynote Speaker. Every Council should work to get their Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, Program Director, and Membership Director to these Diocesan Meetings. Diocesan Meetings are open to any Knight that wants to attend. District Deputies will also be attending these meetings. We hope that these meetings will provide Councils with the tools that they need to Grow.

The needs in our Parishes and Communities continue to grow. Our Councils need to grow to meet these needs. As we enter the Advent season, let's make preparations for the second half of the Fraternal Year. As Knights, we can make this happen.

Growth in Faith, Growth in Fraternity, Growth in Charity, Growth in Membership, Growth in Protection for your Families with Fraternal Benefits

Working together, we will grow the Knights of Columbus in Wisconsin.

I wish you and your Families a Blessed Advent, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. *Vivat Jesus!*

Viva Christo Rey!

DEAR KNIGHTS, ADVENT is

short this year, which is fitting. The time is indeed very short in which to prepare for the Kingdom of God. The Good News for us is that God only needs a short time to bring about His Kingdom in you. Life can change in an instant. The realization of that change can come through trial or triumph. If that is how we experience the changing events of our lives, how much more valuable is our unchanging God? God is ready always to give us what we request, what we really need, and what we deserve.

Smash lukewarmness this Advent. Sometimes as Catholic Christians we take our faith for granted. Even the best Catholics and pious ones can forget the Lord himself. Here are some common quotes: "Clearly mother always had great faith," "I always pray every day," "Our family has always been Catholic." None of these sentences feels settled. They don't increase faith. It does not increase our faith when we use faith language that is built around self. God does not need to hear about the things that we have done in the past. Even our habitual religious actions of the past are less important to God than our relationship with Him now.

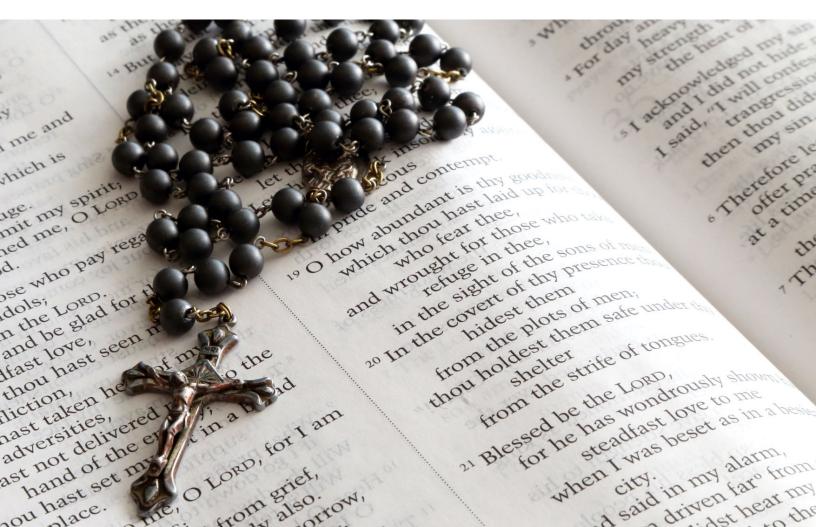
Jesus constantly works to prepare a greater Advent. Advent could be described as "meeting God for the first time." However experienced you are in prayer and religious practice, you still need to meet Jesus for the first time! Everyone who wants to go to heaven is preparing to meet the King of Kings for the first time. How are the preparations going? Ask Jesus! Ask Jesus to show you more of himself. Jesus, how are you urging me to love you and serve you in new ways? Jesus show me you plans for today, for the first time! Christians do not stay stagnant. Nor do we try to recreate an idyllic past. Christians open their hearts to the transforming love of Jesus. No

matter how long it takes, we trust Jesus. He will not



hold back his love or his kingly power!

The Kingdom of God is real, it's near, and it's nearly here! Jesus is urgent. Let your heart open to Jesus daily. Everything depends on this. Make a way for Jesus Christ the King to reign. Your family needs you. We get busy in Advent preparing for the joyous season of Christmas. Remember to breathe. Each moment matters. Invite Jesus to come closer with everything you do. He wants to do this with you. With every heartbeat, the Lord Jesus Christ wants to be born in you. He has come for all flesh! In this year of Eucharistic Revival, welcome the Lord Jesus Christ, your King, to live in the heart of your home.



MEMBERSHIP GROWTH IS a

constant for our Order—not any different from any other organization that relies on its members for good deeds. Now—for some of our Councils, a comment that I often hear is that Membership Growth is a struggle, as individuals aren't interested in joining or making a commitment to a group. This statement hit home for me this past month at my home Parish. As a Parish that is growing, our Council has struggled to keep pace over the last few years. At this same time—a new 'Men's Group' was formed at my Parish. Many of these members are Knights, but many are not. At a weekend Mass, following our Membership Drive that occurred the prior week, the Men's Group had an opportunity to seek out members and were given time to speak after Mass. The individual that spoke made a 'direct' statement—that this Men's Group wasn't a 'secret society' or 'fraternal organization.' At this same time—our council's program leader who is trying to help launch the 'Cor Initiative' met with the Deacon who runs this Men's Group, to try and help educate on how we have 'resources' that could assist this group, he made a statement that they were not wanting our help. This bothered me immensely (mind you, this Deacon is a Knight) as it makes me wonder: What Message Are They Hearing?

Are our own members aware of all of the resources that the Knights can provide? If not—how can we 'share' and 'promote' the great benefits of belonging to the Knights to potential new members? Are our own council leaders aware of all the benefits of membership in the Knights—or do we treat 'inviting' new men to join the Knights as an arduous task instead of one we are excited to do? If our attitude is 'negative'... then why would others want to join our council? What Message are They Hearing?

In my time as a District Deputy, and as a State Officer, including time as a State Deputy—in my communications with council Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries I often heard that Church Drives don't work or that they run into obstacles with Parish Leaders allowing for the Knights to give a speech to invite new members. I would often hear that they have invited every man in the Parish. This makes me wonder: What Message are They Hearing?

The Knights have evolved immensely since I joined, roughly 15 years ago. The 'COR' Initiative wasn't even a talking point among our councils a little over a year ago! E-membership, an opportunity for men to 'try out' being a member before joining a local council wasn't an option roughly 5 years ago. Around that same time, we still required men to go through their 1st degree and then the lessons of the 2nd and 3rd degree at separate times. From the ASAP Program—to the Knights of Columbus donating over 1 million Coats through our Coats for Kids program—to our involvement with helping each of our Diocese with the Eucharistic Revival—the Knights are men of action in both our charitable efforts to our impact helping evangelize and grow men in their Faith. What Message are They Hearing?

Is our Membership even aware of all of these changes? So it makes me wonder—how do we overcome these obstacles and how do we 'grow' in ways that we invite men to join our Order?

Fraternal Benefit Nights are a great resource to 'invite' non-members to learn more about the benefits of being a Knight. Are we fully utilizing these resources? I encourage each of your councils these remaining 7 months of the Fraternal Year to conduct at least 2 Fraternal Benefit



Nights—but at these, to invite both 'members' and 'non-members' to join. Along this same line—are we engaging and inviting the 'Wives' to these events? What a great opportunity for them to become aware of all of the great benefits of their husband being a Knight—but also making them aware of ways that the Knights could potentially assist their family. As we so often hear—families that are 'engaged' with the Fraternal Benefits of the Knights are often not just 'lifetime' members, but also when insuring their Kids, their Kids often become members of the Knights in the future (sons or their daughter's husbands). What Message are They Hearing?

What is the benefit of 'engaging' the Family for the Church? As we often hear another 'objection' from some of our Councils is that they don't have any 'young members' to engage to invite to their council as they are leaving the Church. We play a direct role in helping work with the youth as well as trying to keep the youth in the Faith (such as with our YouCat Bible initiative). Are the families of our Churches aware of our role in this? Are we 'promoting' this as a role the Knights play directly in helping build the Church now and into the future? What Message are They Hearing?

Now—to fully evolve, we should ask the question: Who Should be Receiving our Message? *Continued on page 5.*

State Incentives: 2nd Quarter Incentive

For the 2nd Quarter incentive, the State Council is offering a unique 'Diocese' incentive. The goals set by Diocese are based off the year-end goals for each Diocese.

If a Diocese achieves its monthly intake goal, then its Bishop will receive \$1,000 for each month that the goal is reached. These checks will be delivered to the Bishop personally at the Diocesan meetings in December—so that all the councils attending can share in this presentation.

- Milwaukee ArchDiocese Goal: 50 new members each month
- ▶ Green Bay, Madison and LaCrosse Diocese Goal: 35 new members each month
- Superior Diocese: 20 new members each month

As an added incentive—any council that brings in 5 new members between December 1st and December 25th will receive \$100 off their April 1st per capita invoice. Please work towards achieving this incentive as an extra opportunity to receive funds for your council to use for Charity.



For those councils who feel a struggle 'inviting' men to join, as they feel that they have asked them before only to be rejected—then I must ask: Have you approached and asked the wife if the Knights could be a benefit for their family? Have we approached the priest and parish administration with reasons why membership growth in the Knights is a direct positive result for their parish?

When the Parish Staff, including the Parish Priest is supportive of the Knights—we will grow. When the wives of our Parish want their Husbands to be a Knight—we will grow.

So—what is a possible 'solution' to these suggestions? How many of us take a few hours every Advent to send out Christmas Cards to friends and family? Why can't we take a look at our Parish Rosters or Parish Directories—and review all of those men that are not Knights—and send a 'Christmas Card' letter to each of these families-more directly to these wives and help 'message' them on all of the wonderful things that the Knights do in the Parish and your Community, and how membership in the Knights can help their spouse with faith development as well as becoming a better husband, a better father, a better man? This is a message that we need to send to every wife to help inform them of the benefits of the Knights-and maybe we will find fruitful success in the coming new year!

The Parish Staff, including the Parish Priest, should be aware of the struggles that our Councils possibly have with an 'aging' membership and if struggling to find new members. Each year we are constantly struggling to replace the Members we lose to Death. How many of our Members are not able to do the activities that they possibly did in the last few years? If we can't continue to do these same programs, that means we will have less of a Charitable impact in the Community and possibly the Parish. What impact will this have on the Parish in the future? Making them aware of this, may also help get their 'support' to help you further grow in the future.

TIMOTHY NOWAK

💱 GENERAL AGENT

BISHOPS, PRIEST & Deacons, State Families and membership, my brothers and sisters in Christ, greetings and blessings from the Nowak Agency.

Psalm16: "If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. "

The church spends the month of December making additional offerings for the souls in purgatory, an so we pray for all who have died with hearts open to God's love. As we pray for their souls to be purified and led to heaven, we follow the path Jesus has laid out for us, in the hope of reaching the same happy end.

This month I was speaking with a member who reminded me of an added benefit of being a Knight, that in New Haven, CT where the home office is, each day at noon there is a mass being said for our deceased members. I say added benefit as many councils have masses said for departed brothers, and at all meetings, we say prayers for those who are sick or in distress. Each in its own way is an additional benefit.

It is with great joy that I write you this month, pleading with our Lord for your happiness during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. When most have a family to share your time and your good fortune. I know we have some who have no one to spend that time with and find little joy. However, if we remind them that our Happiness lies in Him alone and encourage them to partake in His joy, we have been charitable. As we progress out of ordinary time, I will be praying for your best advent yet. We have our advent candles out and as we pray each night at mealtime our family, we pray for yours. We know the fullness of Joy does not come from beneath the tree. but from the one who hung on the tree.

I wait expectantly for our Savior and wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas.

Vivat Jesus!









Faith is something that sustains us.

Learn how you can make a difference Kofc.org/Ukraine





PHOTOGRAPHY

I thank everyone who participated in the 'Coats for Kids' events by sending in their photos. We have received some fantastic pictures, and while some may not have been the best, we appreciate your effort. Most of these photos have already been shared on our Facebook page or in the Badger Bulletin. We encourage you to keep sending us pictures of all your events to pr@wikofc.com.

I want to share some photography tips that I've learned over the years to help you take better pictures in the future. These tips include:

- Capturing horizontal photos with your smartphone to get a better view.
- ► Taking numerous photos from different angles to capture the best shot.
- Focusing on the subject and deleting the rest of the photos.
- Getting closer to the subject.
- Using natural light and avoiding the flash.
- Getting action shots and creating your actions.
- Avoiding the "You! Up Against the Wall!"
- phenomenon.

When taking photos, it's important to remember that they should tell a

story on their own, without any need for words. Out of a hundred photos, if you pick the best ten, they should be able to convey what happened and the general atmosphere of the event. To make your photos look more appealing and well-composed, you should follow the "rule of thirds". This means placing your subject in the left or right third of the image and leaving the other two-thirds more open, creating a balanced composition. To apply this guideline, imagine dividing your camera's viewfinder into nine equal zones with horizontal and vertical lines to form a grid. You can enable this setting on most cameras and smartphones by going to the camera settings and turning on the "Grid" toggle under the "Composition" section.

We hope these tips will help you to take better photos and create a more compelling story. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing more of your photos in the future.

Vivat Jesus! Jack Wrbanich



State Chaplain Fr. Brian Dulli 2947 Thinnes Street Cross Plains, WI 53528 608-798-0100 (H) frbriandulli@wikofc.com

State Deputy John P. Huttenhoff 310 Merryturn Road Madison, WI 53714 H 608-249-7793 jhuttenhoff@wikofc.com

State Secretary Miles A. Casey 4400 LaSalle St. Lot 41 Eau Claire, WI 54703 H (715) 579-9124 mcasey@wikofc.com

State Treasurer Ross Larson 110 East Maple St. Edgar, WI 54426 (715) 551-0714 fredtuttle.sons@yahoo.com

State Advocate Dr. Jim Froh 1405 Oakland Ave Watertown, WI 52094 (920)-392-9756 drjimfroh@gmail.com

State Warden Ernie Reinhart 8323 66th St. Kenosha, WI 53142 (740) 973-0737 majernie@sbcglobal.net

Immediate Past State Deputy Corey C. Coonen 2801 Sussex Rd. Green Bay, WI 54311 C 920-819-9409 ccoonen@wikofc.com

State Office Manager Steve Geishirt 4297 W Beltline Highway Madison, WI 53711 (608)274-5750 office sgeishirt@wikofc.com

😻 FOURTH DEGREE

HAPPY ADVENT TO all Brother Knights and families! The Fourth Degree of the Wisconsin Knights of Columbus had two successful exemplifications in October bringing brother knights into the Fourth Degree as new Sir Knights. Congratulations to the new Sir Knights. Please be sure to welcome them into your Assemblies.

So, what does the Fourth Degree stand for? We are the Patriotic Degree of the Knights of Columbus. We are committed to the preservation of our Church, our Order and to the many nations where Knights serve. We serve as examples of Christ's presence in the world. At some point in our lives, there comes a time when we realize that our Christian duty extends beyond our own lives, beyond how we lead our families and into how we serve our fellow man. This is what defines the Knights of Columbus!

Members of the Patriotic Degree are an integral part of the Order and we serve our brother Knights, we proudly foster patriotism in each nation in which we are active and we act on what is right and honorable. How do we do that you may ask? Here are a few examples taken from the Supreme pamphlet about the Fourth Degree:

1. Honoring Knights and their families during times of tragedy and loss.

2. Working to honor and protect symbols of national pride.

3. Participating in national holiday celebrations

4. Honoring veterans for their service and sacrifice.

5. Supporting and defending the truth in the public arena.

6. Defending laws that recognize the sanctity of life at all stages.

7. Standing together to ensure true religious freedom.

8. Many more things too numerous to mention in this article.

During the month of December, the Fourth Degree Sir Knights were active supporting veterans especially since Veterans Day was celebrated on December 11. Many Assemblies are making donations to support the Supreme initiative to send Warriors to Lourdes Program. Some Assemblies are hosting dinners for funding Honor Flights in the upcoming year. Some host Breakfast meals for veterans and their families. Support your local veterans and thank them for their service which allows us the freedoms that we have today. All of these programs can be accomplished by Fourth Degree members without having the new uniform!

Related to Honor Flights from the state of Wisconsin, those are now on hold until early Spring when the weather will cooperate better when they go to Washington DC. We will provide information in upcoming letters with the 2024 schedules and websites of the various flights out of our great state! As we approach Christmas, remember that this is all about the Birth of Jesus. He is the real gift to mankind. While we all appreciate



receiving gifts, remember that giving gives more satisfaction. Donate clothing and food items to the less fortunate. Make donations of cash or blankets to the homeless shelters in your area. Donate canned foods to food pantries. And remember – Jesus is the Reason for the Season and to always KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS!

Check up on Brother Knights and their families during the Christmas Season as well. Some do not have family in the area and your call or visit makes all the difference in the world. And if the family has suffered a loss of a family member in the past year – offer prayers for them and call them to just talk and listen. It is a blessing that God gave us two ears to listen and only one mouth to talk. Listen twice as much as you talk. It will be much more meaningful this Christmas!

"Sir Knight" is not just a title, it is an "Honor".

Happy Advent, Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Vivat Jesus!

Check presentation for honor Flight from 4th degree Assembly 1216. Left to right are James Campbell, Co-founder of Central Wisconsin Never Forgotten Honor Flight, FN Bill Konkol and FC Gary Oudenhoven of Assembly 1216.





Dr. Jim Froh

WORTHY BROTHERS, AS your State Advocate, I want to wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. If I can be of any help with Safe Environment or if you have procedural questions, please reach out to me.



SAFE ENVIRONMENT

It is important that you continue to review your council's status regarding who has completed the Safe Environment training.

Who needs to complete the training? Grand Knight, Program Director, Family Director and Community Director. The Family Director and Community Director will also complete the background check. This is a second email from Praesidium Academy. If your 185 and 365 are in and correct, then the Praesidium Academy sends out the email to complete the training. They get email information from Supreme from the 365 and 185 forms. If you are listed on the forms correctly and still have not received your email, then you need to contact:

Office of Youth Protection

203.752.4458 (p) 855.845.3502 (fax) oyp@kofc.org

They will track the issue down and resend the email to complete the training and if needed another email for background check on FD and CD.

RAFFLE TICKETS

There has been a lot of discussion on mailing raffle tickets. Please know that the mailing and return of raffle ticket stubs using the US Post Office mailing is illegal per the Federal law on Post Office mailings. The State could lose our license for raffles.

GUIDELINES FOR RAFFLES

Federal law prohibits depositing, sending, or delivering raffle tickets by United States mail. The law is designed to protect the integrity of raffles and other gambling activities, and to guard against illegal gambling schemes that may be carried out through the mail. Many states have similar laws. It is legally permissible to advertise raffles or send out promotional information by mail, but the raffle tickets should be delivered in person. Ideally, raffle tickets should be distributed to members during a council meeting or related council event. *Before conducting a raffle, the council should review all relevant laws and regulations and should take steps to ensure compliance.*

WHAT TO DO?

Several suggestions came through about using FedEx/UPS/Spee-Dee or other such services.

Another suggestion is to hand them out at meetings or church get together.

Some councils are going to put the raffle tickets in an envelope and put the name address on the front, (using the address labels). Hand out at membership meeting and then have several members take about 5-10 each and deliver them. This might be a great way to reconnect with members who have not come to meetings lately. Remember to put in the contact info on who is picking them up.

Please share with all of us any other suggestions.

VIVAT JESUS BROTHER! I hope

my message finds you all well and healthy.

As you know, the Knights of Columbus relies on the assessments that we collect from each Council to cover the costs of our activities, initiatives and donations. Thank you to the many Councils that have made your payment. Without your commitment, we would not be able to participate in the events, and opportunities that we enjoy as a State Council.

ID / Tootsie Roll checks were sent last month. If your Council did not receive your check(s) please email or call me so I can dig into that for you. I am happy to investigate and correct.

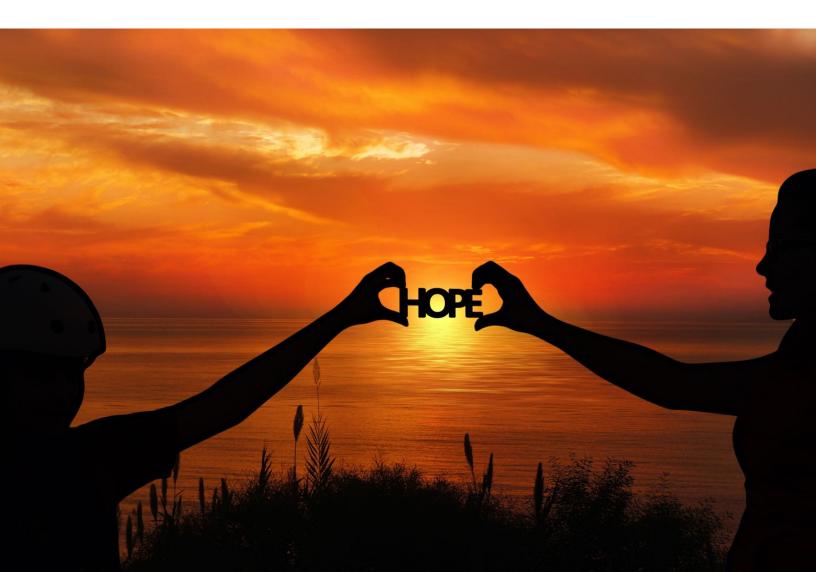
Charity checks have been disbursed. There were several Council Leaders that contacted me stating that, in years past, they never had to complete a form to get their check. I am guessing that another Officer on the Council submitted the form previously and they weren't even aware it was completed. The form isn't new, and it is required. The requirement doesn't come from me, or Bernie, or even the Knights of Columbus. This requirement comes from the Wisconsin Department of Administration, the Division of Gaming's, Office of Charitable Gaming and they are responsible for the licensing and regulation of raffles and bingos conducted by charitable organizations as part of \$563.907-563.99. It is our regulatory

responsibility is to protect the public interest and the integrity of the raffle and maintain our license. Therefore, the



completed form must be on file before a check can be prepared.

I wish to express my appreciation for your patience during my transition to State Treasurer. Your kind words and encouragement have been a blessing and I very much look forward to the remaining good we will do as 2023 comes to an end.





BROTHERS, IT IS a busy time of year. The Holiday season is upon us and you should be planning for the third and fourth quarters. Keep in mind that the five P's. Propper planning prevents poor performance. Now is the time to determine if your council is on track to attain the Columbian Award. If needed make adjustments to the plan so you are not scrambling in May and June. Below are some ideas for you to consider including in your plan.

Consecration of the Holy Family Keep Christ in Christmas

It's not too late to plan a Christmas event such as Consecration to the Holy Family or Keep Christ in Christmas. Invite all families of the parish to participate and identify new men who could strengthen your council. Talk to Father today to determine how your council can best support you.

Food for Families

As the holidays quickly approach, let's make sure families don't go to sleep hungry. The Food for Families program has donated millions of dollars and pounds of food toward this cause. Continue to get your councils involved with their local food pantries or soup kitchens and let them know that for every \$500 or 1,000 pounds of food donated, the Supreme Council will refund \$100 back to the council – up to a maximum of \$500 per council per fraternal year. More information and resources can be found <u>here</u>.

Spiritual Reflection Our Lady of Guadalupe Resources

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe provides a great opportunity for councils to conduct a Spiritual Reflection for the men of the council or the parish more broadly. Resources for Spiritual Reflection and a history of Our Lady of Guadalupe can be found on the Supreme website. In addition, an explanation of the Secrets of Her Image is available on this poster. Share these resources with councils to promote the Spiritual Reflection Program or use them as part of Cor's formation component.

Free Throw Championship

Basketball season is here!!

What are we doing to keep our youth active and engaged? Encourage councils to participate in a Free throw competition.

Since 1972, councils have sponsored the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship for boys and girls from 9 to 14 to provide an athletic outlet and encourage the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. Kids compete within their gender and age and progress from the local level to district, regional, and state/ province competitions.

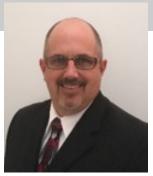
For more information and resources, please visit www. kofc.org/freethrow. For those councils hesitant about the program, refer them to the Free Throw Guidebook #1928 to see how easy it is to run the program.

Program Admin Updates

The Columbian Award Application (#SP-7) and State Council Service Program Awards Entry Form (#STSP) have been updated to be clearer, more concise, and easier to use for councils. Please provide these new forms to the councils in your jurisdictions – it's never too soon to start identifying candidates for State Program Awards! All forms can be found at kofc.org/forms.

Consider sending the Individual Member Worksheet (#1728A) to council members to report their volunteer hours and charitable donations made during the year on behalf of your council. Responses will help you to prepare an accurate Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728) due January 31st.





PAT REIFF

FINANCIAL SECRETARIES,

GRAND Knights, District Deputies, Brother Knights All, as you review my article, we are 5 months into the Fraternal Year.

Supreme's Fraternal Year Emember Target Goal for Wisconsin is 423 new E-members.

That equates to an average goal of **35 new E-members per month.** As of Nov 17th, I have assigned a

total of **149 new E-members.** That equates to a **Nov YTD average** of **30 new E-members per month.**

(We are currently short of our 5month intake target by 25)

One area that I have a concern is that of the 149 members that have been assigned so far this year, 64 or 44% of these men are still pending transfers into your local councils, and some have been on my pending list since July.

WGK & WFS please review your councils PROSPECT tab and if you are having difficulty in making contact, or any other issue, please email me regarding these outstanding assigned e-members and I will gladly assist you with reaching a remedy.

As you are doing your programs & church drives, be sure to include the E-membership online invitation app. In your invitation process to potential members. Bottom line = 149 new members have already utilized the online process. It works!

As we together address the above current fraternal year's assigned members, please keep me abreast of any issues you may be experiencing. I check the weekly Supreme's rosters



every Tuesday to see who has been officially transferred.

I look forward to meeting the WDD's at the upcoming December Winter DD meeting, as well as the WGK's & WFS's at the Milwaukee/ Green Bay Diocese District meeting.

Together, let's get it done!





Officers Online Access

Members in a role permitted access to Officers Online will be emailed an invitation code once the Supreme Council receives the appropriate form from the state council, local council, or assembly indicating the election or appointment, and records this information. If you do not receive an invitation code within a reasonable time, click "Account Assistant" on the sign in page and follow the instructions.

If you previously held a role with access to Officers Online, you do not need a new invitation code. Your access will automatically be reactivated once the appropriate form is submitted.

If you do not remember your log on credentials, click "Account Assistant" or "Password Reset" on the sign in page and follow the instructions. If additional assistance is required contact our Customer Service Department at 800-380-9995, option 2 and provide your membership number and role.

| | Role Description | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Applications by Roles | Officers Online | Officers Desk Reference | Office of Youth Protection | Home Corporations | Member Management | Member Billing | By Laws Online | Knights Gear | Supplies Online | Prospect Tab | Candidate Tab |
| Jurisdiction/ State | | | | | | | | | | | |
| State Deputy | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | X | |
| State Secretary | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| State Treasurer | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| State Advocate | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| State Warden | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| Immediate Past State Deputy | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| Executive Secretary | X | X | X | X | | | | X | x | | |
| State Membership Director | X | X | X | X | | | | x | X | X | |
| State Program Director | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| State Round Table Chairman | X | | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| Council Reactivation Chairman | X | | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| Council Retention Chairman | X | | X | x | | | | X | x | | |
| Member Retention Chairman | X | | X | X | | | | x | X | | |
| Insurance Promo Chairman | X | | X | X | | | | X | x | | |
| NCD Chairman | X | | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| Ceremonial Chairman | X | | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| Hispanic Council Growth Coord. | x | | X | X | | | | x | X | | |
| Online Membership Chairman | x | x | X | X | | | | X | X | x | |
| Additional Membership Roles | X | | X | X | | | | X | X | ^ | |
| Online Membership Coordinator | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | x | |
| State Trainer | x | ^ | x | x | x | X | | x | X | ^ | |
| 4th Degree / Provincial | ^ | | ^ | ^ | ^ | ^ | | ^ | ~ | | |
| Vice Supreme Master | x | x | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| District Master | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| District | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| District Deputy | v | v | v | ~ | | | | v | v | ~ | |
| Council | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | X | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grand Knight | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | X | X |
| Financial Secretary | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Advocate | X | X | X | X | | | X | X | X | | |
| Deputy Grand Knight | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| Treasurer | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| Membership Director | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |
| Assembly | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Faithful Navigator | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | | |
| Faithful Comptroller | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | |
| Faithful Admiral | X | | X | X | | | X | X | X | | |
| Faithful Pilot | X | | X | X | | | X | X | X | | |
| Faithful Purser | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | |



THE BLESSED MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY GUILD Are you a member?

The Blessed Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney. The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics. Guild members receive regular updates on the progress of Blessed Michael J. McGivney's cause for canonization and are invited to participate in promoting devotion to this Servant of God.

As of July 1, 2023 Wisconsin has only 1,264 out of 179,000 plus members registered in the Guild. Members of the Knights of Columbus are not automatically Guild members and must elect to join the Guild. The Blessed Michael J. McGivney Guild Newsletter is published bimonthly except July - August and is sent free to Guild members.

Scan the QR Code above to register today! It's FREE!

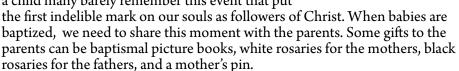




SACRAMENTAL GIFTS

The Sacraments stand for the most significant events in the life of the domestic Church. The Knights of Columbus need to be there to support and embrace the members of our parish family at these essential moments in our faith. As both children and adults become more integrated into the church and our parishes, they need to know that the Knights of Columbus support and will continue to in a tangible way.

The first Sacrament that we all received was Baptism which was the start of our Faith journey. As a child many barely remember this event that put



First Communion is normally the second sacrament that children receive in their journey of Faith. This is probably the first big step that they will remember for the rest of their lives. As Knights, we need to support them on the way by gifting them something that will help guide them in their faith. A Book of the Saints makes a fantastic gift, as they can reference saints and use them as examples in their continued faith journey. Other possible gifts can be a scapular medal, or a book of prayers designed for someone their age.

Confirmation is the final step and perhaps the most important where they are accepting their role as both followers of Christ and future evangelists of Christ. The You Cat Bibles are a perfect gift for these young adults. Similarly, for adults receiving Confirmation, a copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes the ideal gift as it will help them in understanding the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Marriage is another Sacrament where we can make a strong impression of the Love of Christ that binds the Husband and Wife together in Unity. The Knights are a family organization and we need to make the newly married couple aware that as Knights we want their marriage to be a success. A pair of matching prayer books and or his and her rosaries are the ideal marriage gift.

Regardless of the Sacrament, your gifts should not be restricted to one or two physical items. If the recipient of the sacrament is an adult male, include an invitation to join our order. Let them know that we are praying for them. Include some prayer cards for them to use as bookmarks especially the Prayer of St. Francis, and the Prayer for the Canonization of Father McGivney. YOU CAT Bible

The State Council has worked out a deal by purchasing Youth Catholic Bibles for \$12.50 each while the normal price is \$24.95. This Bible is an ideal gift for young adults and includes special notes on scripture giving reference to how it is relevant in today's time. You can order these books through the State Store with the link on the State website. Delivery will be after the winter meeting through your District Deputy or at the State Convention. We are going to create additional pick-up points in each of our Diocese.

For the Councils that do not have credit or charge cards you can email your order to me at DFBednarek48@Gmail.com and send your check, with a note on the check it is for the Youth Bibles, to the State office at:

Knights of Columbus

Wisconsin State Council

4297 West Beltline Highway

Madison Wisconsin 53711-3859

Upon notification that the State received the check, I will release the order for pick up or delivery.

A FAITH PROGRAM



Intro

I will start with a quick introduction of myself. I joined the Knights 18 ¹/₂ years ago and as they described it back then, it has proven to be "an experience of a lifetime" for me.I have met some of the most faith-filled individuals in my life, individuals that are willing to dedicate their time and effort to bring others to experience the love of our Savior.

Some of the key positions I have held since joining the order were Deputy Grand Knight and Grand Knight followed by all the Offices in the 4th Degree Assembly, District Deputy supporting 9 different Councils over 5 years, Milwaukee Diocese Program Director, Silver Rose Chairman, and

different Councils over 5 years, Milwaukee Diocese Program Director, Silver Rose Chairman, and Pilgrim Icon Chairman. Currently, I'm both the Commander and Comptroller of my Assembly as well as the newly appointed Faith Director for the Wisconsin State Council. I've been married to my wonderful wife Linda for nearly 49 years with whom I have two children and 4 grandchildren. Educationally I have degrees in both Cinematography and Electronics. I have been involved with religious education intermittently for the last 30 years. I'm also a retired Master sergeant from the US Army, where I spent most of my time as an instructor.

As Faith Director, I believe my job is to help every one of the Councils in the State of Wisconsin grow in their Faith. While I'm new in the job and it has been vacant for several months I believe it will be both a learning experience as well as a catch-up period for me initially. Having worked with the Pilgrim Icon and the Silver Rose has given me some experience in coordination with our councils and the uniqueness of every individual council. As a knight working with the Supreme Faith in Action Program, it is also my goal to help every Council earn the Columbian award and become eligible to become a Star Council.

Currently, the most visible sign to me is the lack of filing Forms #10784 with Supreme. This was extremely noted from the reports I received from Supreme. Even today, 3 months after the Silver Rose was transferred to Illinois less than half the hosting Councils filed the required forms. I saw this same thing with the Pilgrim Icon that is only 8 months away from being returned to Supreme. If you need help filing these forms please start by reviewing the <u>Supreme Video</u>. If you are still having issues please email me and I will see how I can support you.

Faith Programs

Supreme Lists nine programs under the Faith Category of the Faith in Action program. All of these programs are designed to strengthen both the Knights and their Families in faith. A quick reminder of the programs that Supreme lists: **Refund Support Program (pg. 13)**, Into the Breach, **Pilgrim Icon Program (pg. 21)**, Building the Domestic Church Kiosk, Holy Hour, Rosary Program, **Sacramental Gifts (pg. 14)**, and Spiritual Reflection. Remember this list is not all-inclusive, most of these items found their way to the list because Councils have already done them and Supreme found them valuable enough to encourage all the other councils to participate. Each month, I will try to highlight at least two of these programs.

RSVP Refund Support Vocations Program

As the strong right hand of the church, the Knights of Columbus are committed to supporting our seminarians. These young men will be our priests tomorrow and need our support morally, spiritually, and financially. To encourage our councils in support of our seminarians, Supreme initiated a program where for every \$500 your council donates to a seminarian they will refund the council \$100, up to a maximum of \$400. To receive this refund, the Council must complete Supreme form #2863 and email it to the Supreme Office with a copy of the canceled checks.

Forms Reminder

As a final reminder this month I cannot emphasize the importance of getting forms filed on time. This is especially true of the program's form #10784, which should be filed immediately after an event. While we suggest the program chairman fill out the form it is often easier for the Grand Knight or Financial Secretary to fill them out, because they have the forms readily available to them from the Officer's online menu. Please whenever you file any Supreme Forms send a copy to forms@wikofC.com which is an automated program to identify forms and send a copy to those within the state structure that need access to your forms.

If you still have issues filing the #10784 forms, Supreme has an informative video accessible online that walks you through the process. You can fund the program by following <u>this link</u>.



AS WE CLOSE out 2023 and the first half of our '23-'24 Fraternal Year, a few thoughts as we plan for the weeks and months ahead.

Given the terrible situation in the Middle East, Ukraine and earthquake ravaged regions throughout the world, the need for wheelchairs is greater than ever. Why not use December and January to initiate a new fundraiser for that purpose in your parish, community, or district? You can get all the information you need from the Supreme website and the Global Wheelchair Mission.

Since this same period is a somewhat quiet time for weather disasters, why not use it to initiate that long put off effort to form or update the plans for disaster resolution and relief as well as the supplies needed for your Council, parish, school, cluster, community, etc. Consult with our Disaster Preparedness State Coordinator or check the Supreme website for ideas on getting started.

Now is the perfect time to contact an organization in town you've worked with in the past or one whose mission you feel strongly about and see what project in town you can work on together to resolve. This networking is something you won't regret and may lead to further charitable outreach opportunities from there. Working with Habitat for Humanity may well develop the same way!

> You can still do a Coats for Kids or Jackets for Kids Drive in the weeks and months ahead. Or, start working now

on setting the wheels in motion for next fall's or winter's drive by nailing down sites, clothing supplies, school supplies, volunteers, etc. to make the operation a success up the road.

For the youth programs, the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest should now be wrapping up and Councilwinning essays should be in my hands by year's end. The Culture of Life Essay Contest should be run at the schools in January and February with Council-winning essays to your DPCs by March 31. All the needed information can be downloaded from the State website.

Plans should already be in motion for your Free Throw and Knowledge Contents. Councils can already operate the contests from December through the end of February. Obtain Free Throw information from the State and Supreme websites, materials from Supplies online. Knowledge Contest information download from the State website, including the 2024 Math and spelling tests (unchanged from 2023).

Soccer and Hockey Skills Contest information can also be downloaded from the Supreme website, along with supplies ordered from Supplies Online. Some information is on the State website also. Both contests can be run indoors December-February and outdoors (March-May). Plan to do your contests now by lining up schools, gyms, volunteers,



contacting soccer and hockey teams, clubs, coaches, etc. Finally, my

family and I



wish you all a Blessed, Holy, Happy, Wonderful Christmas 2023 and a Hapy, Healthy, Safe and Peaceful New Year 2024!

Vivat Jesus!

P.S. Remember to send your Keep Christ in Christmas Councilwinning Posters this year to your DPCs, not to me. Questions should be directed to your DD, DPC, or to State Family Director James Vosters.

WISC KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CAMPING ASSOCIATION NEWS

Time is running out on making reservations for our June 21st to the 23rd Camp Out at the Door County KOA Campground near Brussel, Wisconsin. To secure a site in our reserved section, and get our group discount, reservations need to be made by January 1st, 2024. A fun filled, family outing is again being planned, including a Saturday evening family meal. Family and children's activities are being planned as usual. For a family fun-filled weekend, make your reservations now.

Joe Huser, State Camping Coordinator (joehuser@charter.net) 715 572-4531

Mike Geisler, Sec/Treas (mvgeisler@aol.com) 715 536-2203 for details.

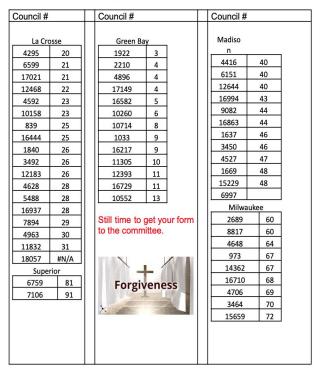




Worthy Brother Knights,

The Charity Raffle tickets have been distributed to your district deputy at the district huddles. The state office is working on sending out the council charity checks.

The charity committee has not received forms from following councils; thus, they will not receive their checks until they are received:



God Bless, Bernie Heit State Charity Director

BROTHER KNIGHTS, I would like to start by apologizing for councils not receiving the Charity checks from last year's raffle ticket sales. Know the state office is working diligently to get those in the mail soon. Your members have done outstanding work on selling tickets, getting in your form and have charities that could use those funds now. Thank you for your dedication and patience.

With the holidays season upon us let's get those raffle tickets sold to family and friends. Imagine the clout you will gain if you sell them a winning ticket. Hope everyone has a safe and joyful Christmas.



FAITH IN ACTION - FAMILY PROGRAMS

Hello Brother Knights! Midway through Quarter 2 of the fraternal year, we are getting into the most active part of the year for family programs!

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Posters should be collected by now, and the council level grading should be nearly complete! Work on capturing those posters digitally and posting them throughout your community!

Council Grading due to DD: Dec 15 DD Grading due to DPC: Dec 31

DPC Grading due to SFD: Jan 15 State Grading due to Supreme: Jan 31

If you have a conflict with your events to show off your posters and the deadlines above, please work with your DD and DPC to coordinate the scheduling. The DPC and State grading deadline is fairly firm, but there is room for the councils and DD's to negotiate. DD's, please communicate with your DPC if you are unsure about the process to grade, timing, or whether there are enough posters to warrant a district grading level.

FOOD FOR FAMILIES

I am typing this right after packing up the leftovers of my own family's Thanksgiving, and I can't help but cast my thoughts toward those who would appreciate a hearty meal. I am working on a food drive with my council right now to support our local food bank. Please

consider doing something similar. Remember that credit for this program requires time volunteering to distribute food AND a donation of food or money.

CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY

Our Supreme Chaplain has composed a prayer to consecrate ourselves and our families to the protection of the Holy Family. This program gives our councils the opportunity to lead our families, and parish members in choosing to live a more holy way of life by consciously being a beacon of God's love through His Church. In December we need to order the prayer card materials, and plan to distribute them throughout our parishes in December. Culminating with a week of devotion and mass on the Feast of the Holy Family on December 31st.

FAMILY OF THE MONTH

Supreme

The October Supreme family of the month is the **William Boesch** family from the Fr. Friss Council of Berlin in District 54 of the Madison Diocese. Congratulations!

FAMILY OF THE YEAR

It's that time of year already! As we close out the final calendar month of the year, we have the opportunity to reflect on all of the families we have nominated for Family of the Month, and those who are especially deserving of recognition by the Diocese and State as the Knights of Columbus Family of the Year! Nominations typically come from a Family of the month in the January 2023 – December 2023 time frame, however the families of all our Brother Knights that have not won this award are eligible.

The deadline has moved up a few weeks: ALL nominations are due to ME on completed Form #10680 by February 16, 2024.

Gentlemen, it is a **privilege and honor** to serve you and your councils! **Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help.**







Ultrasound Projects

McDonald O'Neil Council – #2032 (New Dawn PRC) GK John Sykes jsac5820@gmail.com

415 Dahl St. Rhinelander, WI, 54501 715-360-0116

If you would like to donate to either fund, but wanted a personal tax deduction, please write your check out to and mail to:

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc Memo: **#2032** *Ultrasound* 4297 W Beltline Highway Madison, WI 53711-3859

Wisconsin Special Olympics Update: The Wisconsin Knights of Columbus have agreed to cater breakfast for all their statewide events. There are five events (Fall Games, Bowling, Winter Games, Spring Games, Summer Games). Special Olympics of Wisconsin (SOWI) will pay for the food. We save them money by cooking and serving the food. We look forward to seeing your council at one of their statewide events! We need your help in this excellent and worthy pro-life endeavor!

The next SOWI statewide event is their Bowling Tournament from 10am - 4pm on Saturday & Sunday, December 2 & 3. Dale's Weston Lanes, 5902 Schofield Ave, Weston, WI. KofC has been asked to provide volunteers for this event. **We are not preparing any food.**

The next Statewide Wisconsin Special Olympics event will be February 10 & 11, 2024.

Join us at Winter Games, held Saturday-Sunday, February 10-11, 2024 in Wausau. Winter Games will bring over 140 athletes and 70 coaches to Granite Peak at Rib Mountain State Park and Nine Mile Forest to compete in a host of winter sports, including alpine skiing, snowboarding, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing. The Pere Menard Assembly #1449 will be coordinating the breakfast for this event.

To help out, please contact one of the following people: Faithful Navigator Dennis Janssen at 715-842-8686 / dennisjanssen@charter.net

John Benisch, Special Olympics Chairman 715-884-3197 johnb45@TDS.net

WSW Ernie Reinhart majernie@icloud.com

Dan Miller Dan.M@ProLifeWI.org

ASAP Grants

Hopefully the month of December left your council's checking account EMPTY after giving away all your money to pregnancy centers in your area! For every \$500 (up to \$2,00) you gave to a maternity home or pregnancy center, Supreme Council will give that non-profit entity another \$100! But, you have to apply for it! I can help you, but it is super easy if you have a scanner or a cell phone with a camera.

March for Life Washington D.C.

Join us in person or in prayer on January 19, 2024 in Washington, D.C. for the world's largest human rights protest! Some groups are organizing a bus charter to D.C., such as Pro-Life Wisconsin. If you or someone from your council can't go, please consider sponsoring a youth to go!

WE ARE ASKING for more member participation with Special Olympics at events. The days of just writing a check are no longer the only support that we as Knights are asked to do. As a matter of fact Supreme looks at involvement, more than money donated to award the Supreme grant each year. I list events on this article months prior in order to give Councils and members sufficient time to plan ahead. Click on the BECOME A VOLUNTEER below to sign up for an event.

Please remember to file online Form #10784 each and EVERY TIME you make a contribution to or volunteer to the drive or a local agency or do a project. Report Man Hours and Members involved as well as money. If using Tootsie Roll drive monies for Special Olympics, those Man Hours and Members from that project should be reported as well.

NOTICE FROM SUPREME: As part of the Order's ongoing support of Special Olympics, each jurisdiction in the United States and Canada receives a check to present to the Special Olympics organization in its state, province, or territory every year.

The check amount is based on council participation in Special Olympics programming in your jurisdiction compared to other jurisdictions within your membership division. To earn a larger check for your state deputy to present to Special Olympics, encourage councils to report their participation in Special Olympics programs through the online **Fraternal Programs Report Form** (#10784). All participation taking place in the calendar year 2023 must be reported through the online #10784 form by January 31, 2024, to be considered in the rankings. Rankings will be determined, and checks will be issued, by April 2024. Rankings are based on categories such as number of volunteers, volunteer hours, and donations.

TEAM WISCONSIN 2026 DRIVE: I am very happy to announce that we have received \$65,621.16 as of Nov. 22, 2023, Thank you; hopefully we can reach \$200,000.00 before the 2026 convention. WHAT A CHALLENGE.

PLEASE remember Special Olympics Monies can come from a Fund Raiser, Council Donation, Charity Account, or any other ideas.

BECOME A VOL♥ UNTEER



Volunteers are needed at all events.

Click on above image or go to Wisconsin Special Olympics web page or phone Nicole Christensen, 608-442-5670

| DATE | EVENT | LOCATION | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--|
| February 10-11, 2024 | State Winter Games | Wasau | |
| February 17, 2024 | Basketball Skills Competition | Lake Geneva | |
| February 18, 2024 | Team Basketball & Skills Comp. | Menomonie | |
| February 25, 2024 | Team Basketball Competition | Wilmont | |
| March 3, 2024 | Team Basketball & Skills Comp. | Neenah | |
| March 16, 2024 | Team Basketball Competition | New Berlin | |
| March 17, 2024 | Team Basketball Competition | Stevens Point | |
| March 23, 2024 | Swim Competition | Neenah | |
| March 23, 2024 | Swim Competition | Oconomowoc | |
| April 12-14, 2024 | State Spring Games | Oshkosh | |

On Tuesday, December 12th the 8th Silver Roses that traveled through North Central will be presented to Our Lady of Guadalupe where she appeared to Juan Diego in 1531. This completes the Pilgrimage of the Silver Rose for 2023. Supreme begins its final evaluation of the Running of the Rose from the submitted form #10784 that were submitted. Please get your forms submitted if you hosted the Rose this year.

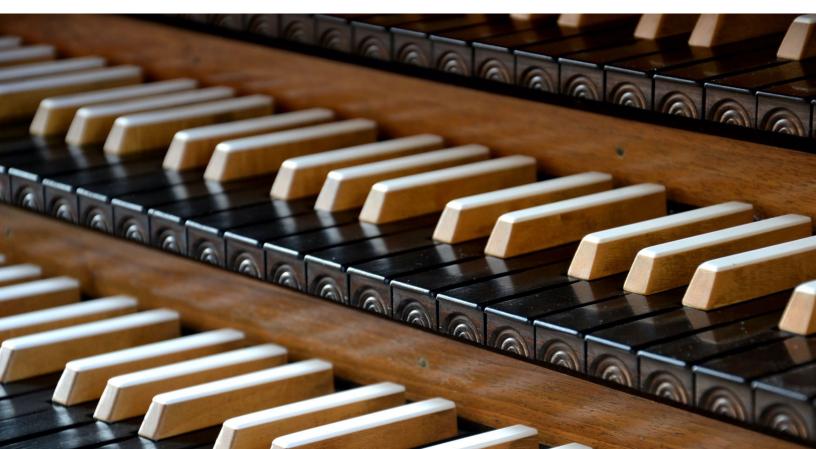
Supreme has released the dates for the pilgrimage of Silver Roses for 2024. The eight Silver Roses will start their 2024 journey on February 24th, 2024 and will be in Wisconsin from July 14th to August 10th. With this information, I am now accepting requests from Councils that desire to host the Silver Rose in Wisconsin next year. Requests can be sent to my email and need to include your Council number, parish name, parish city, and the information of the individual who will be parish contact for this event.

While we will have the Rose for 28 days there will be more requests than what I can schedule, therefore a precedent needs to be established.

At the top of the list will be the Councils that have not hosted the Silver Rose in 2023. The second priority will be the Councils that have hosted the Silver Rose in 2023 and that I have received form #10784 from before the end of this year (these will be prioritized by the largest attendance first). Other factors that I will consider, are if two Councils are close together and if they can share the Rose on a single day with either 2 separate services or a combined service.

Believe me, establishing the final route takes time. Many Councils demand a specific date, but I do not have 14 Saturdays and 14 Sundays. In establishing the route, in fairness to everyone I need to ignore special date requests. Since this does create issues, I will release an initial schedule for the Councils. If councils have an issue with the initial schedule, I'll try to resolve it as best I can, which may include changes to councils or dates. The final schedule will be released at the 2024 State Convention giving councils at least 3 months to prepare to host the Silver Rose.





| TRANSFER DATE | ICON 1 | ICON 2 | ICON 3 | ICON 4 | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--|
| WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023 | 31 | 40 | 8 | 67 | |
| FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023 | 32 | 41 | 13 | 73 | |
| SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023 | 22 | 26 | 2 | 49 | |
| TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2023 | 24 | 46 | 80 | 50 | |
| THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024 | 30 | 44 | 85 | 48 | |
| SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024 | 29 | 14 | 91 | 63 | |
| TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2024 | 27 | 10 | 83 | 62 | |
| WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024 | 28 | 11 | 81 | 69 | |
| MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024 | 90 | 12 | 82 | 60 | |
| WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024 | 89 | 9 | 87 | 61 | |
| FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024 | STATE | 71 | STATE | 66 | |
| SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2024 | ALL ICONS RETURNED TO STATE OFFICE | | | | |

ICON UPDATE

The St. Joseph ICON is completing its second journey around our jurisdiction. At the end of this fraternal year, the ICONs will be returned to the Supreme Council. I do get updates from Supreme on the reports they received on the ICONS. The biggest negative is the few number of reports that are received. With roughly 23 days in each district on the second pass there should be no reason why a council in a scheduled district should not have had an opportunity to have a service with the ICON. Please remember to fill out form 10784 right after your council has a service. If you had a service after July 1st and did not file a form 10784, please do so. Remember to also send a copy to Forms@wikofc. com.





Knights of Columbus®

In service to One. In service to all.



