

Adrian Kidarsa, Grand Knight
vacant, Deputy Grand Knight
vacant, Chancellor
vacant, Recorder
Joe Gugel, Treasurer
Richard Roberts, Advocate
Alex Griffith, Warden
Tim Bergs, Financial Secretary
Council E-mail, kc4549@gmail.com
Web page, <http://stbmidd.org/kc4549>



Fr. Brian Wilk, Chaplain
Wayne Dohse, Inside Guard
vacant, Outside Guard
David Fucillo, Trustee
Ben Nevarez, Trustee
Humberto Pasarell, Trustee
vacant, Lecturer
Erin Kennedy, District Deputy
William Donohoe, Field Agent (608-556-3568)

MONSIGNOR LEDERER COUNCIL 4549

Middleton, WI

January 2023

Holy Father's Intentions:

For educators - We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

Chaplain's Message: Brother Knights: It is my hope that your families experienced a Christmas season of peace and joy. May the spirit of the season sustain us into 2023.

We have now returned to Ordinary Time for a short stretch until the beginning of Lent on February 22nd. This is not a time to let our spiritual guard down. Throughout Ordinary Time the Gospels tell the great stories of discipleship and the challenges that it poses in our lives and how we can more fully live it out. It is also a time for renewed commitment to the Eucharist. How we live Sunday proclaims to the world what we believe.

What happens in our churches every Sunday is the fruit of our week. What happens as the fruit of the week past is the beginning of the week to come. Sunday, like all sacraments, is simultaneously a point of arrival and departure for Christians on their way to the fullness of the kingdom. This is not ordinary at all. This is the fabric of Christian living.

To renew the Eucharist in our lives, I am giving you advance notice of the Madison Diocesan Eucharistic Congress to be held September 29 – October 1, 2023 at St. John the Baptist Parish in Waunakee. Mark your calendars! It will be a weekend retreat of faith, fellowship and family. There will be more information coming out in the weeks and months ahead. This will be a wonderful spiritual experience for all Catholics in our Diocese. I strongly encourage everyone, particularly Knights, to attend.

Have a great start to this new year. Fr. Brian

Financial Secretary Notes: I would like to thank all the members who have submitted their dues. Also, I would like to remind those who have not sent them in to please get them to me by the end of January. Honorary members do not pay council dues but can pay the optional PKD (Penny-a-Knight-a-day) and Pro-Life donations that go directly to the State Council to support these campaigns. I will be sending out second notices at the beginning of February to the members who are assessed dues for the council. I will not be sending out second notices to our honorary members. Please include with your dues payment the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity that I am required to complete by January 31. You can send me your dues payment and raffle tickets in the same envelope but please write separate checks for the dues and raffles. If you need more raffles tickets just send me an email (tbergs@charter.net) and I will send more your way. Raffle tickets need to be sent to me by April 10. Last year our council received \$859.00 as a grant from our share of the proceeds from the state raffle. The raffle directly affects both the state and our local council. Our council is also still accepting donations for the Annual Charity Appeal. All members received a rosary prayer card that was included with your dues notice. We will be in need of members to lead the rosary in May before the weekend masses as part of our Faith in Action. So take some time to say the rosary in the next few months. This could be one of your Lenten activities you take on this year. God Bless, Tim.

McGivney Prayer: God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grand Knight's Message: Dear Brother Knights:

Happy New Year! Each year brings new opportunities in our life. Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get, as Forrest Gump would say. Keep an open mind to embrace the opportunities that come your way. Last year, Deputy Grand Knight Anthony Norman had transferred to another council. This year, Brother Mark Misenheimer is stepping down from the positions of Recorder and Program Director. These are the reasons for the advertisement in recent church bulletins. If you happen to meet them by chance, please thank them for their hard work, serving the council in their capacities. Their contributions to the council are greatly appreciated.

Our council is in need of members to fill the following positions: Deputy Grand Knight, Recorder and Program Director. These positions are crucial to the continuity of our council. A brief description of each position is noted below.

Deputy Grand Knight: Assist the Grand Knight with council operations and perform duties assigned by Grand Knight. In Grand Knight's absence, presides over meetings.

Recorder: Keeping and maintaining a true and permanent record of all council actions and correspondences.

Program Director: Works with Grand Knight to set council programs for the calendar year. As well as managing the implementation of programs.

I encourage third degree members who are interested to contact me. We can talk about the positions and whether you're a good candidate for the position.

You may have heard the news that Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI had passed away. Please say a prayer for our beloved German Shepherd. Additionally, please say a prayer for our current Pope, our Bishop and Fr. Brian. If you would like to stop reading, this would be a good point to stop and it would not hurt my feelings.

Every Advent season, we find ourselves reading about John the Baptist. Little is known about John the Baptist. So if he were alive today, would we recognize him? What would he look like? I would imagine him as a person wearing the following: blue jeans, hard hat, steel toe boots and bright colored vest. Just like a roadway construction worker. Leveling the hills and filling the valleys, paving a road for others to reach heaven.

The prophets of the Old Testament and John the Baptist had made the road straight for us. Jesus had given us the best example of how to reach our Father. All we have to do is walk on that road. Keep walking on the road and follow the Lord's footsteps. May the Lord guide you in your journey. Sincerely, Your Grand Knight, Adrian

Council News

Benefits Night: There will be a free webinar on Wednesday, January 25th at 7 PM hosted by the state KC Field Agents. It will be on Estate Planning and feature Stacy Vogeltanz. The webinar is free but you will need to pre-register. For more information and to register go to <https://www.kofcwi.org/live-events>.

Council Meeting: Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 24, 2023. It will be in the RE basement and start at 7:30 PM. A rosary for life will be prayed in the same location starting around 7 PM.

March Meeting: Due to the Parish Mission by Bishop Hying in March, we will hold our meeting that month on Tuesday, March 21. It will start at 7:30 PM in the RE basement. The rosary for life will also move to that night. It will start around 7 PM in the RE basement.

Men's Retreat: For many years, a group of men from our parish has attended the annual retreat at the Jesuit Retreat House in Oshkosh. Again, this year, a group will attend the session on Feb. 16-19. Rides will be coordinated so please contact Dick Roberts at 608-831-1281. Brochures are available in the back of church for additional information or go to jesuitretreathouse.org.

Upcoming Parish Events

Hour with Jesus: There will be an Hour with Jesus on Wednesday, February 1, starting at 7 PM in the church. The next one after that will be on March 1.

Eucharistic Adoration: This occurs the third Sunday of the month and will be available from after the 8 AM Mass to just before the 10:30 AM Mass. The next one will be December 18.

Dedication: On March 5 Bishop Hying will help us dedicate the new Parish Center, Higgins Hall. It will start at 11:30 AM.

Parish Mission: Bishop Hying will lead a Parish Mission on March 28-30. He will discuss the subjects of the Eucharist, Reconciliation and Holy Week. It will be in the Church but will also be available via livestream at www.stbmidd.org/live.

Mass: The parish is live streaming all Masses. Go to <https://stbmidd.org/live>. Masses are also recorded, so you can view them at any time.

Formed: (Suggestions)

If you don't have an account, go to <https://formed.org/> and click on "SIGN UP". Click on "I belong to a Parish or Organization". Type "St Bernard" in the search box and click on "St Bernard 2015 Parmenter Street Middleton WI". Click on "Next". Enter your name and e-mail address and click on "Sign Up".

Once you have an account, click on "Sign In". Enter your e-mail address. Formed will send a link to your e-mail. Click on it to finish logging in.



Prayer Requests

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Bob Faren, Cletus Schey, Kevin Laufenberg, Garry and Connie Lone, Roger Head, Worthington family, those struggling with mental health, those dealing with unemployment, our deceased brother knights, and the Parish Prayer Chain

(<https://stbmidd.org/prayer-chain-network-1>)

Link to latest **Knightline**:

<http://www.kofc.org/un/en/news-room/knightline/archive.html>

Web Page: Remember to check out the KC 4549 web page on our parish's site. See the link in the masthead.

Field Agent Report: Happy New Year to all my brothers and their families! I wish you peace, joy, and good health this coming year!

It's that time of year when we make resolutions. Have you made any yet? Maybe the realistic question is, "Have you already broken some of them?"

Here are 10 popular New Year's resolutions from the internet along with some of my own:

1. Get in shape; for some of us this means to lose some weight, exercise more and staying fit; to stop smoking or eat healthier foods.
2. Stop procrastinating; I don't know about you, but I'm going to put this off for yet another year!
3. Improve my prayer life; there's an app for that! The Laudate app claims it is the most downloaded Catholic app. It has an immense library of prayers, devotions, daily readings, podcasts, and Vatican documents.
4. Improve on a skill or develop a new hobby; maybe you want to lower your golf handicap or learn to bowl. Go for it!
5. Be more thankful; God has blessed me in so many ways and sometimes I forget to thank Him for all of those things...usually because I'm too busy asking for something else.
6. Spend more time with the people that matter most; sometimes I get so busy working, keeping the house up or going to some meeting, I forget the ones I do these things for. I've got to set aside more time to just be with them.
7. Reduce stress; in this sometimes hectic and seemingly crazy world, it's easy to get swallowed up in the latest tragedy and worry all the time. Cutting out those sources of stress or learning how to deal with them more effectively means a more settled life.
8. Read more; with so much on the internet, TV, and radio it's easy for me to get lost in those. Reading for pleasure has become something of a lost art.
9. Spend wisely; it's so easy to spend money on things we really don't need, buy on a whim or because we're keeping up with the Joneses.
10. Review your current financial situation; it's always a good idea to take stock on a yearly basis.

Now this last resolution I can definitely help you keep. My resolution is to contact each of you this year to check in and if appropriate, set up a time to meet. We can update your information and see where you stand. Your financial health is critical to your family's future security. We'll take a look at your goals and aspirations and help make sure you're on track to reach them. Vivat Jesus! William Donohoe (608) 556-3568, (608) 497-0011, william.donohoe@kofc.org

WE NEED YOU:

You have probably seen the announcement in the last several bulletins that our Council needs people to step up. The Grand Knight also mentioned it earlier in this newsletter. Last Fall our Deputy Grand Knight transferred to another Council. Personally, I can no longer reconcile my beliefs with those of the Church. I am thus not a practical Catholic and am resigning from the Knights. The officers have been working at reduced capacity for several years. These departures not only result in more holes, they are major ones. In fact, the Council cannot function unless they are filled. The Deputy Grand Knight supports the Grand Knight, who is currently handling way more than he should. The Recorder documents what happens at our meetings and is the main point of contact between the Council and the Parish Office. The Program Director coordinates with program chairs, the officers, and the Parish Office. He does not organize any particular activity, but those activities don't go as smoothly without that coordination. We need fresh faces filling these roles. If an officer asks you to take on one of them, prayerfully consider how you can help the Council. You wouldn't have been asked if they didn't think you could handle it. They will also provide support as you learn your role. Remember the lesson about individual fibers combining to make a strong rope. Our rope is in desperate need of more fibers.

Let there be light:

How many polite New Yorkers does it take to screw in a light bulb?

Both of them.

How many bureaucrats does it take to change a light bulb?

100. One to change the bulb and 99 to write the environmental impact report.

How many CEOs does it take to change a light bulb?

Just one. The CEO holds the light bulb and the universe revolves around him.

How many board meetings does it take to get a light bulb changed?

This topic was resumed from last week's discussion, but is incomplete pending resolution of some action items. It will be continued next week.

How many fatalists does it take to screw in a light bulb?

What does it matter? It's just going to go out again anyway.

How many actors does it take to change a light bulb?

Only one. They don't like to share the spotlight.

Contact: Questions, suggestions - Contact Mark at mark.misenheimer.wi@gmail.com or 608-239-2319.

Address Update: If your e-mail address changes please let me know. Also, make sure I have not been added to your spam list.

Calendar of Events:

Jan 24	7:00 PM	Rosary for Life (RE basement)
Jan 24	7:30 PM	Council meeting (RE basement)
Feb 1	7:00 PM	Hour with Jesus (Church)
Feb 8	6:00 PM	Family of Faith Night with Bishop Hying (Church; livestream)
Feb 13	7:00 PM	Officer meeting (RE basement)
Feb 16-19		Men's retreat (Oshkosh)
Feb 22		Ash Wednesday
Feb 28	7:00 PM	Rosary for Life (RE basement)
Feb 28	7:30 PM	Council meeting (RE basement)
Mar 1	7:00 PM	Hour with Jesus (Church)
Mar 5	11:30 AM	Dedication of Higgins Hall with Bishop Hying (PC)
Mar 13	7:00 PM	Officer meeting (RE basement)
Mar 21	7:00 PM	Rosary for Life (RE basement)
Mar 21	7:30 PM	Council meeting (RE basement)
Mar 28-30	7:00 PM	Parish Mission with Bishop Hying (Church; livestream)
Apr 2		Palm Sunday
Apr 5	7:00 PM	Hour with Jesus (Church)
Apr 9		Easter
Apr 10	7:00 PM	Officer meeting (RE basement)
Apr 25	7:00 PM	Rosary for Life (RE basement)
Apr 25	7:30 PM	Council meeting (RE basement)