

Arctic Madonna Council 9581



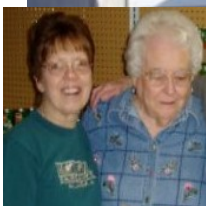
Newsletter of the Knights of Columbus in Wasilla, Alaska

Knights in Action...Food Pantry of Wasilla

Members of our council and parish have been assisting the Food Pantry of Wasilla since 1993. Currently the demand for food from the Food Pantry of Wasilla is at an all-time high. Last month more than 800 families were served.

As Knights we are in solidarity with our Supreme Council's "Food For Families" program, an outreach campaign within our communities to ensuring that no family goes hungry.

Each year the months of March and April are two of the most important months for Wasilla Food Pantry. Based on the total



Knights, wives and parishioners help out at the Food Pantry.



weight amount of food and financial contributions, a matching (Feinstein) grant is awarded. The grant doubles our efforts to support the Pantry that helps feed hungry families in the Valley.

While March and April

are very important months, the Food Pantry needs our continued help with manpower and donations throughout the year.

Our Holy Thursday offering at Sacred Heart of more than \$1900 was donated to the Food Pantry.

Cook's Corner.....a message from the Grand Knight

This first issue of our newsletter is a tribute to some of the opportunities we have at Sacred Heart for service through our parish and the K of C.

Our Order in Wasilla has a proud history of helping to care for those in need.

Whether assisting with the Food Pantry of Wasilla, or some of the new opportunities available to our members with Bishop's Attic or Family Promise, we are making a difference in the lives of others.

Help us make this the "Year

of the Volunteer." There is no better time to be a Knight of Columbus.

Thanks to all of you who helped out at our last breakfast. K of C breakfasts have been a great way to foster fellowship and community in our parish. —Patrick Cook GK

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May 1, 2009

Inside this issue:

Knights in Action	1
Cook's Corner	1
New Members	2
9581 History	2
Family Promise	3
Bishops Attic	3
Honor Guard	4

Upcoming Events:

**Mother's Day Breakfast,
May 10, 2009**

Roadside Clean-up in May
(to be announced)

Bishop's Attic Donations
(pickups needed, to be announced)

**Parish Picnic June 14,
2009**
(Knights and grills needed)

House Raising?
(possible June project, stay tuned)

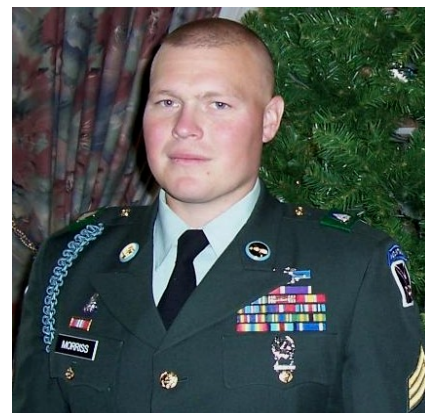
New Members at Arctic Madonna Council

During the regular business meeting of Arctic Madonna Council on April 14, 2009, six new members were added during a first degree exemplification. They include, Keith Skalsky, Daniel Morriss, Karl Gerard, Dr. D. Glen Elrod, William Yarwood, and Andrew "Andy" Trouy.

The council also welcomes new transferred members Douglas Dombroski, Patrick Durbin, and Nicolas 'Nic' Herrera.

New Brother Knight, **SSG Daniel Morriss** completed his first degree days before shipping out for training and his next deployment to Iraq. Brother Morriss has previously been deployed to Bosnia, Korea, Afghanistan and Iraq. He was recently promoted to Staff Sergeant.

Brother Morriss and his wife Cameron and their four children recently joined Sacred Heart Parish. Cameron was born in Alaska and has family here. Let's keep Daniel Morriss, his family,



and all of our military personnel, in our thoughts and prayers as they serve our country.

Arctic Madonna Council Founded in 1988

Jim Brass, the first Grand Knight of Arctic Madonna Council, remembers when Catholic men in the Valley sought to establish a council here in Wasilla.



By laws were approved in 1987. The council was chartered in February of 1988.

"The biggest challenge for us then was that few people knew what the Knights of Columbus was" said brother Brass. "We received a lot of help from our State Deputy Allen Holbrook."

The Knights worked on projects including building the garage and holding raffles and bingo to raise money for the parish. The K of C's also held pancake breakfasts and established a scholarship fund for

seminarians.

Another project was a blood drive organized due to a blood shortage. The blood drive became a competition among several other churches in the Valley. "In a one month period over 70 pints of was collected from our parish. We easily won the competition" said brother Brass, who has been a member of Knights of Columbus since 1968.

Family Promise—a Ministry to Homeless and Displaced Families

Sacred Heart Parish has been involved in Family Promise for two years. It is an outreach ministry of churches in the Valley assisting homeless families with a temporary place to stay, food, and additional family needs. Our par-

ish is on a rotation schedule. Each nine weeks Sacred Heart provides hospitality for a family in need. We've been asked to help where we can. Judith Akrep is our parish coordinator. She can be reached at **373-3852**.

"Family promise works because of the collective effort of volunteers.....like you who offer kindness in a million different ways"

Karen Olson, National President, Family Promise

Bishop's Attic—Opportunities for Service.....Resources for Sacred Heart

Bishop's Attic has been serving members of our community for many years.

Did you know that Bishop's Attic provides a major source of funding for both St. Michael's and Sacred Heart? In fact, last year both parishes benefited tremendously from the proceeds donated by Bishop's Attic.

As Knights, we've been asked to play a key role in supporting this outreach by helping to manage donations at our parish donation site. The mission is an easy one. We simply transfer donated items to the secured storage sheds a couple times each week; then, depending on the volume of donations, transport them to the retail store in Palmer.

Parishioner Dave Belanger has been working with Bishop's Attic ministry for

seven years. He said he grateful to have the support the Knights of Columbus.



Dave Belanger and K of C member Mark Pfister unload and transfer items donated to Bishop's Attic. Photo by Kathy Barenburg

The Value of our Fraternal Service....\$17.51 per hour?

Each year we are asked to account for the total number of volunteer service hours donated as a K of C. Most members I speak with tell me they serve because its part of their mission as Knights or they feel good helping others in need.

There is another way of looking at the impact of our volunteer efforts. An independent firm, The Independent Sector, featured on the K of C website, has determined that there is a high monetary value

of the volunteer hours donated by members of service organizations. They've determined that the value of each hour of volunteer service is worth \$17.51 (national average) per hour. When multiplied by 68 million hours our members donated last year, our members contributed well over a billion dollars in value, an incredible financial impact.

Our members know that its not the dollars that pound the nails in the Habitat

homes, or the food that is packed for distribution at the Food Pantry of Wasilla, its manpower. So when it time to report your hours of volunteer service, remember all those hours you contributed to the betterment of others. It has had a powerful impact.—Terry F. Svoboda

**To become a member of the K of C contact
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Arctic Madonna Council 9581

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Officers

Chaplain.....Vacant
Grand Knight.....Patrick Cook
Deputy Grand Knight.....William Smith
Financial Secretary.....Douglas Wright
Treasurer.....Michael Maslyk
Recorder.....vacant
Advocate.....Dominic Hasara
Chancellor.....Timothy Mahoney
Outside Guard.....David Grathwohl
Inside Guard.....Patrick Maurin
Warden.....Bobby Deason
Lecturer.....Dea Louis Hoffman
Trustee.....Ismael Baez
Trustee.....David Chatterton
Trustee.....Don Campbell
Insurance.....Terrence "Terry" F. Svoboda

Knights of Columbus Insurance



Terry F. Svoboda, FIC
Field Agent

A.M. Best: A++
Standard & Poors:
AAA

- Term Life
- Whole Life
- Retirement
- Annuities
- IRA's, Roth IRA's
- Long Term Care
- Guaranteed Issue Life

Wasilla, Alaska
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Council Photographer Needed



Fourth Degree Honor Guard at Sacred Heart



Fourth Degree Honor Guard members pictured with Bonnie Stirn and her daughter, are, James Brass, Kirk Hall, John Lopetrone, Dave Carroll, Kevin Adler, James Curro, William Smith, Robert Nilsen, Craig Logsdon, John Martinez, Laurie "Ricky" La Forte, James Humphrey, Ernest Barndt and Robert Barndt,

Members of two fourth degree assemblies provided the honor guard at the funeral mass of Frederick Stirn on March 25, 2009.

The honor guard included members of Father David Melbourne Assembly 2675 in Palmer/Wasilla and Archbishop Ryan Assembly 1592 in Anchorage.

Fred was a member of the Knights of Columbus for 48 years and a fourth degree member since 2002.