

Charleswood Council 7523 is one of 14,000 K of C councils situated in ten countries. The Knights have over 1.75 million members. The Order adheres to the teachings of the Catholic Church and is loyal to the pope. The Order is dedicated to the principles established in 1882 by its founder, Venerable Fr. Michael J. McGivney. These are Charity, Unity and Fraternity. Councils have programs and activities in the areas of council, church, community, youth, Catholic education and vocations.

The Knights of Columbus operates one of the largest fraternal insurance companies in North America. It has the highest industry ratings. Council has an insurance Field Agent who will explain the various kinds of life policies, RRSP, annuity, and Long Term Health Care plans which are sold by our company. K of C insurance products are available to every member, his wife, minor children and grandchildren. The purchase of insurance is optional and is not a requirement of membership.

Since its inception in 1980, Charleswood Council has raised money in support of several major projects at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. Renovations to the auditorium and kitchen, the outdoor illuminated signs and the monument to the unborn child are examples. The outdoor Christmas lighting and crèche at OLPH church are provided by council. Annual acts of charity and support of the church and the community are undertaken by council. Christmas hampers

are assembled and delivered to needy families in the area. Several Winnipeg organizations which serve the poor and homeless are given donations of food and money. Council's Vocations Support Program gives one diocesan seminarian \$500.00 which he may use to offset his annual educational expenses. A scholarship of \$500.00 is available for students enrolled in a Catholic high school in Winnipeg.

The Annual Children's Christmas Party is sponsored by the council. Over the years several youth activities have been funded by council. Council raises funds by providing Sunday breakfasts and Friday Lenten fish fries at the parish, as well as by selling Safeway coupon booklets.

Charleswood Council 7523 has been recognized many times by Supreme Council and Manitoba State Council for its outstanding achievements in attaining the goals of the Order.

What are the requirements for membership ?

A man must be 18 years of age and a practical Catholic as understood by the Church. After being accepted by his council and duly initiated, he is required to pay his annual dues on time.

What are the benefits of joining a K of C council ?

The Knight's programs bring you together with other like-minded Catholic men and their families to work jointly for the betterment of your church and community. It gives you a feeling of belonging, as you get to

know most of the men in the parish through attending meetings and working on projects.

Being a member instills the virtues of charity, unity and fraternity as espoused by our founder. Your involvement can make you a more committed Catholic and help you grow in your faith.

What are a member's obligations to council ?

A member should become as active as his family commitments permit. The Knights is a family oriented organization that respects the sanctity of marriage and the values of the family. Duty to one's wife and children come before the work of the council. A dedicated Knight will learn to balance his commitments to family and council to the benefit of both.

How do you go about joining Charleswood Council ?

Obtain a Form 100 application form from the Grand Knight or any member. They will assist you in filling out the form. The council Membership Director will explain the process of your application being read and voted on by council and your initiation. He will accompany you to the First Degree initiation ceremony, after which you must pay your dues. Then you can attend Council meetings. The dues are currently \$30.00 per calendar year.

Charleswood Council meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. A mass usually precedes the meeting.