

**Deceased Knights Ceremonies  
Updated 01/03/07**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**



**DECEASED KNIGHTS MEMORIAL**

**Grand Knight (GK)**

**Council Name  
COUNCIL NO. XXXX  
City, Idaho**



ORDER OF EXERCISES

**GK: Worthy Warden (W), has this chamber been fittingly prepared for the solemn ceremonies of the evening?**

W: Worthy Grand Knight (GK), it has.

**GK: Worthy Deputy Grand Knight (DGK), for what purpose are we here assembled?**

DGK: Worthy GK, we meet this evening to pay proper fraternal tribute to the memory of the brothers of our council who, in accordance with the will of Almighty God, have left this world and preceded us into eternity.

Realizing as we do the uncertainty of life, appreciating as we should, the debt we owe them for the legacy of their life's work, we come in serious thought and subdued spirit to deliberate and think of the time when we too shall pay the 'penalty of mortality'; and, with reverence, to review the past and the many memories of those brothers who were once with us in the flesh and material being.

In a hopeful and prayerful attitude, let us commune together amid the echoing memories of time, that those who have gone from our sight may not disappear from our recollection. We knew them as associates, colleagues and friends; they sleep this evening in God's consecrated ground awaiting the judgment day.

And we trust that the influence of this solemn service may cause us on our part to lay up a treasury of good intentions and kindly deeds that will redound to our benefit, contribute to our well being and establish our status with Almighty God, when we too shall have answered the final summons. This gathering is an outward expression of our love and our esteem, of our trust and our hope.

**GK: In the light of our Holy Faith, Worthy Chancellor (Chan), what is man?**

Chan: Man is a creature composed of body and soul, and made in the image and likeness of God.

**GK: Why did God make man?**

Chan: God made man to know Him, to love Him, to serve Him, in this world, and to be happy with Him forever in the next.

**GK: What are the four last things for man to remember?**

Chan: Death, judgment, heaven, and hell.

**GK: When is man to die?**

Chan: We know not when, nor where, nor how.

**GK: Worthy Reverend Chaplain (Chap), bearing in mind both the living and the dead, will you lead us in prayer that we may proceed in a fitting manner.**

**Would everyone please stand.**

Chap: {stand} It is befitting and imperative, that our ceremonies should not proceed without the invocation of the Divine Blessing, that through It's grace we may participate in the solemn services of this evening in a spirit of reverence, and with a feeling of dependence on the assistance of the Almighty; it is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from their sins.

Let us, therefore, invoke that Divine aid and mercy, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

{recite} The Our Father. {council responds}

{recite} The Hail Mary. {council responds}

**GK: Let the roll of officers and members be called.**

{Note: Knights on the team remain standing}

{Worthy Recorder (R) calls slowly the roll of officers, the W responds "Present" to each name, whether the officer is actually present or not}

{R then continues by calling the names of the deceased brothers one name at a time. After each name is called, R pauses about 5 seconds then R calls the name again.}

{after a pause of about 5 seconds, the W slowly says "ABSENT" – then turns the member's placard face down on the chair.}

<<Deceased members updated on Recorder's copy>>

**GK make sure you know the name of the last Knight to be called in order to be ready for your next part.  
Check Deceased Members with Recorder prior.**

**GK: Our Worthy Recorder (R) will now give a eulogy for our departed brothers.**

R: We are gathered here to pay our respects and to indulge our remembrance of those brothers who have preceded us into the next life.

Let us never forget their contributions, to their family, to the community, and – in reverence toward our Blessed Mother Mary – to our Holy Church.

They have given us their brotherhood in the Knights of Columbus, showing their love and concern for their fellow man.

It is with great pride that we undertake this solemn ceremony in their honor and have this opportunity to remember their lives.

{Pause in silence while W turns each placard for all deceased Members face up.}

**GK: Brothers, in your behalf, let me ask the Worthy DGK, have our commemorative exercises exemplified the virtue of charity as it applies to the departed; and have we, by our presence here in kindly and thoughtful remembrance been faithful to the virtue of brotherly love even unto death?**

DGK: Worthy GK, the virtues you specify have been well exemplified.

**GK: Worthy Chan, have we by assembling the living in tribute to the dead made stronger the bonds of unity that join us; and have we demonstrated the fourth of our cardinal virtues, patriotism, by exhibiting our belief in the Christian citizenship that was evident in the lives of our deceased Brothers?**

Chan: Worthy GK, we have.

**GK: Then Brothers, in acknowledgment of our final dependence upon Almighty God for help and relief in sorrow, and for the granting of that eternal reward that compensates for a life well spent, let us pray.**

{ask the people to stand}

Chap: Be merciful in Your judgment of your servants, O Lord, for in your sight no man shall be justified unless You grant unto him remission of all his sins. We beseech You to not let Your judgment weigh heavily upon them whom in faith we commend to You; but through Your mercy, may be found worthy to escape Your wrath, who, while they lived, were sealed by the Holy Spirit.

O God, we humbly beseech You that the souls of your servants which You commanded to depart from this life be spared from the pains of hell; that You command them to be received by your Holy Angels

and conducted into paradise, their true country; that having hoped and believed in You, that may possess everlasting joys. Eternal rest grant them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May their souls, and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

May the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, descend upon us and remain with us forever.

Amen.

**GK: This concludes our commemorative memorial service. We thank all of you for attending.**

{Note: Invite everyone to stay for refreshments}