



# The District Sentinel



**IN SERVICE TO ONE ... IN SERVICE TO ALL**  
**The Voice of the 4th Degree Michigan District #4**

**Vol. 4 Issue 3 3rd Quarter**

Knights of Columbus Supreme Web site [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)  
Hennepin Province web site: [www.hennepinprovince.org](http://www.hennepinprovince.org)

Michigan District #4 web site [www.mikofcdist4.org](http://www.mikofcdist4.org)

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## \*MASTER'S MESSAGE\*

Worthy Sir Knights and Ladies,

I hope that you had a very Blessed and Merry Christmas and spent quality time with family and friends. Even though this newsletter is late

due to scheduling complications with our upcoming Exemp, Lady Beverly and I want to wish you a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year. It doesn't seem possible that another calendar year has already passed. Winter is here and I'm certainly grateful that we have had very little snow and unseasonably mild temperatures. Soon Lent and the Easter season will be upon us with the promise of spring weather and sunshine hopefully.

As a reminder, the "Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity" (Form 1728) is due to Supreme by January 31, 2016. Please send me a copy by January 25, 2016 for my records and I will make a copy and mail it to Vice Supreme Master Don Hall.

Our next District Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 12, 2016 at Sacred Heart Parish Center in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Registration will be from 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM. The meeting will start at 10:00 am and end at noon followed by lunch. Please bring your lovely Ladies; they are invited to also attend a separate meeting with Lady Beverly. You are asked to bring a dish to pass for the luncheon. The District will provide the meat, tossed salad, beverages and tableware. A separate meeting notice will be sent to all Assemblies with an agenda of items to be discussed. Please let me know ahead of time if you want an item on the agenda.

Please don't forget about our District Project "Operation Patriotism" for the Veterans. At the District Meeting last spring, it was the consensus of all Assemblies present that a contribution of \$300.00 per Assembly would be put in a fund and split evenly between the Grand Rapids Veterans Home and the Saginaw Veterans Hospital. Please send

your check to District 4 Comptroller Robert Godi, 1718 Ashwood Drive, Reese, MI 48757-9438. Be sure to indicate on the Memo Line of your check "Operation Patriotism".

Also, keep in mind the "Military Chaplains Scholarship Program". This is a five year project initiated by Supreme requesting that each Assembly contribute \$50.00 for each of the five years. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me.

THE NEXT MAJOR EVENT IN DISTRICT 4 IS FAST APPROACHING AND IT IS A VERY SPECIAL ONE!!! It is the spring District 4 Exemplification which will take place Saturday, April 16, 2016 and will be hosted by District 4. BISHOP DAVID J. WALKOWIAK will join the Fourth Degree and will be the Class Honoree. The Exemplification will be in the Grand Rapids Catholic High School cafeteria, the ladies luncheon program and Saturday evening banquet will be at Cathedral Square and mass will be at St. Andrew's Cathedral. The Host Hotel is the Amway Grand Hotel. Therefore, Assemblies need to be working with the councils they serve by encouraging 1st Degree members to join the 3rd Degree and 3rd Degree members to continue their journey to the 4th Degree.

WE NEED CANDIDATES TO MAKE THIS EXEMPLIFICATION AN OVERWHELMING SUCCESS FOR BISHOP WALKOWIAK AND TO APPRECIATE HIS SUPPORT OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!!! To offset additional costs for this Exemplification, we must all do our part to procure Ads for the Program Book to keep our District financially sound. It would be great if each Assembly would purchase one full page Ad plus sell a few more Ads for the Program Book. We can never have too many Ads.

Bob Krauseneck  
District Master  
Michigan District #4



**\*UPCOMING EVENTS\***

- January 1st ..... Mary, Mother of God  
 Holy Day of Obligation
- January 1st ..... New Years Day
- January 1st..... Annual Dues are due and should be sent to Faithful Comptroller**
- January 6th ..... Feast of the Epiphany
- January 21st ..... Martin Luther King Day
- January 31st..... Annual Fraternal Survey Form #1728 is due to Supreme and the District Master**
- February 2nd ..... Ground Hog Day
- February 10th ..... Ash Wednesday
- February 12th..... Lincoln's Birthday
- February 14th ..... Valentine's Day
- February 15th ..... President's Day
- February 22nd ..... Washington's Birthday
- March 12th ... 4th Degree District #4, District Meeting Sacred Heart Parish Center - Mt. Pleasant 9:00 AM Registration ~ 10:00 AM Meeting**
- March 13th ..... Daylight Savings begins  
 Turn clocks forward 1 hour at 2:00 AM
- March 17th ..... St. Patrick's Day
- March 20th ..... Palm Sunday
- March 20th ..... First Day of Spring
- March 25th ..... Annunciation of the Lord
- March 25th ..... Knights of Columbus Day of the Unborn
- March 27th ..... Easter Sunday
- March 29th ..... Founders Day



***Does your Assembly support District #4 with program ads?***

It costs a lot of money to host an Exemplification, to put together an impressive day for candidates and to make the occasion a memorable event for all those who attend. The only way the District can make the event affordable for those who attend is to ask each assembly to purchase a full page advertisement and then sell at least one additional full page ad.

The ad costs are as follows:

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Full page ..... \$100</b> | <b>1/2 page ..... \$60</b> |
| <b>1/4 page ..... \$40</b>   | <b>1/8 page ..... \$20</b> |

It is never too early to start selling ads for the April Exemplification! Your ads and checks can be sent to:

Robert Godi, FMFD  
 District #4 Comptroller  
 1718 Ashwood Dr.  
 Reese, MI 48757-9438



**\*DISTRICT EVENTS OF NOTE\***

- **Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Form 1728 were due to Supreme by January 31, 2016.** A copy should be sent to the District Master, Robert Krauseneck, and he will provide a copy to Vice Supreme Master Don Hall.
- **The next District Meeting will be Saturday, March 12, 2016** at Sacred Heart Parish Center in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Registration will be from 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM with coffee and donuts. The meeting will start at 10:00 am and end at noon followed by lunch. Don't forget, the ladies are invited and encouraged to attend a separate meeting with Lady Beverly and are asked to bring a dish to pass for the luncheon. The District will provide the meat, tossed salad, beverages and tableware.
- **Elections for District Master will take place at the next District Meeting.** District Master is a two year term of office with a reappointment by the Supreme Master being required each year. If you wish to be considered for candidacy you must provide District Master, Robert Krauseneck with a resume **before the March 12th meeting. A nomination and seconding nomination are required from the floor.** Nominating speeches are limited to two minutes. **You must be present to accept the nomination.** The election will be conducted under "New Business" as a regular part of the District Meeting per By-Laws.
- **Michigan District #4 Exemplification will be April 16, 2016.** Michigan District #4 will host the Exemplification and it will be held at Cathedral Square in Grand Rapids. More information will be provided in mailings and at the District Meeting in March.
- **If you would like to have your assembly prayer requests printed in the District newsletter, please contact the Newsletter Editor, SK Thomas Ketchum.** Because of space issues, please limit your requests to members of your assembly, their spouses, and immediate family.

*" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: "A voice of one crying out in the desert, 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." ~ Matthew 3:3*

## **\*FRIAR'S FORUM\***

### **The Holy Year of Mercy**

Earlier this year, during a Lenten penance service, Pope Francis announced that the Church would celebrate an extraordinary jubilee year dedicated to God's mercy. The Holy Year of Mercy begins Dec. 8, the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, and will conclude Nov. 20, 2016, the solemnity of Christ the King.

Last April, on the Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday), Pope Francis published a letter about the holy year titled *Misericordiae Vultus* (The Face of Mercy). In the first words of the document, the Holy Father invites us to look upon the face of the Lord Jesus as the face of God's mercy. It is Jesus of Nazareth, God's eternal Son, born of Mary, who has revealed the Father's mercy to us "by his words, his actions, and his entire person" (1).

Pope Francis also invites us to contemplate God's mercy "as the wellspring of joy, serenity, and peace," calling mercy "the ultimate and supreme act by which God comes to meet us" (2). Mercy is "the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters on the path of life" and "the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to a hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness" (ibid.). With these moving words, the pope brings us to the heart of the Gospel, namely, that Jesus Christ is the revelation of the Father's merciful love.

### **MERCY AND CHARITY**

Like his predecessors, St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI, Pope Francis does not present God's mercy as merely a soothing ointment designed to make us feel better about our sins while still living in them. Rather, mercy is God's way of reaching out to us, offering us a new chance to look at ourselves, to convert, to believe. Mercy is also the foundation of the Church's life — God's mercy is what the Church preaches; what the Church dispenses in the Mass and the sacraments; and what the Church practices in works of charity, healing and education. In a world that all too often chooses violence and severity over mercy, we are all called to be authentic signs — and, indeed, missionaries — of the Father's mercy. Pope Francis has thus chosen the "motto" of this holy year as: *Merciful like the Father* (14).

In *Misericordiae Vultus*, Pope Francis recalled the words of St. John XXIII at the opening of the Second Vatican Council when he said that the Church preferred "the medicine of mercy" to "the arms of severity." Even more to the point, he noted what Blessed Pope

Paul VI said when he closed the council in December 1965: "We prefer to point out how charity has been the principal religious feature of this Council ... the old story of the Good Samaritan has been the model of the spirituality of the Council" (4). Pope Francis also recalled that St. John Paul II, in his encyclical *Dives in Misericordia*

observed that we always experience God's love — his charity — as mercy.

The pope's challenge, then, is for all of us to be practitioners of mercy, not only by contributing to charitable efforts, but also in our personal lives. "Love, after all, cannot be an abstraction," he wrote. "By its very nature, it indicates something concrete: intentions, attitudes, and behaviors that are shown in daily living" (9).

### **THE SACRAMENT OF MERCY**

It is easy to see how this special holy year is tailor-made for the Knights of Columbus family, whose first principle is charity. Following the lead and inspiration of our founder, Father Michael McGivney, the charity that the Order puts into practice is a matter of serving one's neighbor and finds its source in God's mercy. Whether it's reaching out to a brother Knight and his family in times of trouble, aiding in disaster relief efforts, providing wheelchairs to people with disabilities, distributing winter coats or scholarships, or advancing the protection of unborn life through ultrasound machines, the charity of the Knights of Columbus seeks to restore and affirm our wounded human dignity.

Furthermore, our works of charity are meant to convey the mercy of God, which is at the heart of the Gospel. Prospective members and their families are most attracted to the Knights of Columbus when they see the Order engaged "in service to one, in service to all." More importantly, it is often through the practice of charity that we lead others to Christ and his Church.

For the Order to take full advantage of this special Holy Year of Mercy, the first step is for each Knight to open himself personally to the God who is "rich in mercy." Jesus is looking at us with the eyes of mercy, asking us to believe in him and trust him. He isn't merely asking us to assent to a series of abstract truths, but instead to entrust our lives to him, confident that he will forgive our sins and open for us the door of mercy in the house of his heavenly Father.

Even more than the vastness of creation, the mighty power of God is revealed in his mercy and endless capacity to forgive our sins, giving us new life by his own eternal newness. During this holy year, Pope Francis especially urges us to "place the sacrament of reconciliation at the center once more in such a way that it will enable people to touch the grandeur of God's mercy with their own hands".

May this Holy Year of Mercy be for our beloved Order, for each of us personally, and for our entire Church a time of grace and joy. And may Mary, the Mother of Mercy, accompany us along the way.

Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori  
Columbia Magazine 12/1/15





## \*Right to Life Issues\*

### Abortion Activists Hate Ultrasound Photos Because They “Humanize the Fetus”

If there is anything abortion activists hate the most, it’s photos of unborn babies in the womb. They reveal the truth about the humanity of the unborn baby in a way that convinces many people abortion is the killing of an unborn child.

Frequent LifeNews author Sarah Terzo highlights one quote from an abortion advocate who doesn’t like them:



“The images and language most often wielded by pro-life advocates are vivid and emotional... recent developments in imaging technique certainly have facilitated a reliance on powerful pictures that humanize the fetus in a way not possible two decades ago. Because fetuses now can be seen in intricate detail, opponents of abortion have striking images to use in support of abortion restrictions, despite what these restrictions might mean to women’s health and freedom.” — Melody Rose, *Safe, Legal and Unavailable? Abortion Politics in the United States* (Washington, D.C.: CQ Press), 2007, pp. 10 to 11.

Other abortion activists have gone even further: So here’s the million dollar question then: if the ultrasounds ultimately don’t matter at all, then why abortion do advocates care? For something so insignificant, they sure do fight them hard. The president of NOW, Terry O’Neill compared them to rape. Amanda Marcotte, also at Slate, called it ritualized humiliation. Of course, in reality,

ultrasounds are very much medically necessary — not just before an abortion, but after as well.

Beforehand, the doctor needs to know the woman’s gestational age, in order to figure out the appropriate method of abortion, as well as to ensure it isn’t an ectopic pregnancy. Afterwards, the abortionist needs to make sure that they got everything, because if any part of the baby remains, it can be deadly to the woman. So it isn’t that pro-aborts are truly concerned with the health of the woman in the ultrasound debate here.

Ultrasound images are powerful enough to make the founder of NARAL, Bernard Nathanson, renounce the pro-abortion movement and spend the rest of his life fighting to defend life. Pre-abortion ultrasounds have been described as emotional torture. Maybe most women who get an abortion aren’t swayed by seeing an ultrasound, although it’s important to keep in mind that this study was based off the records of one abortion clinic in Los Angeles. But the key in what infuriates abortion advocates so much probably lies in the women who are unsure, the ones who are likely to change their minds after seeing their unborn baby.

This is from taken in whole from an article written by Steven Ertelt in December 2014 for Lifenews.com

**You CAN’T be BOTH a Practicing Catholic AND Pro-Abortion!**

Please Remember in  
Your Prayers



Prayer Requests

SK Roman Winkler PGK, SK Raymond & Lady Rosemary Reinhold, SK Edwin and Lady Carol Hodges, Lady Mary Ferrier (wife of SK Don Ferrier, Michael Nowicki (son of State NCD Director SK Dan Nowicki), SK James DeBoe (District 2), Lady Millie Wiese (wife of SK Kent Wiese District 2) SK Mark Pickard (Ohio), SK John Burich (Ohio) Fr. Phil Witkowski, Fr. Phil Salmonowicz, Fr. John Wisneski, all our priests & clergy, and all of our service men and women here and overseas.

Please pray for the families and the souls of SK Thomas Durbin FMFD (Ohio), Tyler Nelson (step grandson of State Council Activities Director Jeff Gapczynski), SK Walter Winkle Sr. (father of State Warden Walter Winkle) and Reginald Niedzinski (uncle of Lady Beverly Krauseneck)

*“Eternal rest, grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.”*

## CIVICS 101\* The State of Michigan

Michigan was the 26th state, admitted into the Union on January 26, 1837. Called the "Great Lakes State" because its shores touch four of the five Great Lakes, Michigan gets its name from an Ojibwa (Chippewa) Indian word meaning "large lake." Michigan has an unusual geography, as it consists of two land masses--the Upper Peninsula and the mitten-shaped Lower Peninsula. Detroit, its largest city, is known worldwide as the center of the American auto industry.

Following the prehistoric inhabitants, Michigan's residents were the tribal groups of Ojibwa, Ottawa and Potawatomi Native Americans. The first Europeans were the French and French- Canadians. Étienne Brulé of France, arrived in 1618 and named the region New France. In 1634, Jean Nicolet explored parts of the Upper Peninsula for France. Missionaries arrived and established a mission at Keweenaw Way in 1660. In 1668, Father Jacques 'Pere' Marquette established the first permanent settlement of Michigan at Sault Sainte Marie making it the oldest town between the Alleghenies and the Rockies.

France was ousted from the territory by Great Britain in 1763, following the French and Indian Wars. During the Revolutionary War, settlers in Michigan favored British rule and often raided American settlements. At the end of the war in 1783, Michigan came under American control. Detroit and Fort Mackinac however, did not surrender until 1796. In 1787, Michigan became part of the Northwest Territory. In 1805, the Lower Peninsula and the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula became the Territory of Michigan.

After the Revolutionary War, the US acquired most of the region, which remained the scene of constant conflict between the British and US forces and their respective Indian allies through the War of 1812.

The policy of pushing Native Americans westward and opening the lands for settlement was largely due to the efforts of Gen. Lewis Cass, who was governor of Michigan Territory (1813-31) and later a US Senator. Steamboat navigation on the Great Lakes and sale of public lands in Detroit both began in 1818, and the Erie Canal was opened in 1825.

The territorial courthouse that served as Michigan's first state capitol was completed in Detroit in 1828. However, Michigan's first constitution made Detroit a temporary capital and said a permanent site should be chosen by 1847. As the deadline approached, nearly every town in Michigan was proposed. James Seymour, a land speculator with a mill in what is now North Lansing, campaigned for Lansing Township, pointing out its locations equidistant from Detroit, Monroe, Mt. Clemens and the mouths of the Grand and Kalamazoo rivers. The house voted on thirteen sites before selecting Lansing; and the senate voted fifty-one

times before it accepted the house's recommendation that the wilderness township with less than 100 people become the new state capital.

The move toward statehood was slowed by the desire of Ohio and Indiana to absorb parts of present southern Michigan, and by the opposition of southern states to the admission of another free state. The Michigan electorate organized a government without US sanction and in 1836 operated as a state, although outside the Union. To resolve the boundary dispute Congress proposed that the Toledo strip be ceded to Ohio and Indiana with compensation to Michigan of land in the Upper Peninsula. Though the Michigan electorate rejected the offer, a group of Democratic leaders accepted it, and by their acceptance Michigan became the 26th state on January 26, 1837. (The admission of Arkansas as a slaveholding state offset that of Michigan as a free state.)

In 1817 the University of Michigan was the first university established by any of the states. Originally named Catholepistemi and located in Detroit the name was changed in 1821. The university moved to Ann Arbor in 1841. Michigan State University was founded in 1855 as the nation's first land-grant university and served as the prototype for 69 land-grant institutions later established under the Morrill Act of 1862. It was the first institution of higher learning in the nation to teach scientific agriculture.

No battles were fought on Michigan land during the Civil War (1861-1865), but over 90,000 Michigan men, and at least one woman disguised as a man, served in the Union armies; approximately 15,000 of which were killed. The Fourth Michigan Cavalry under General Custer captured Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy on May 10, 1865.

Ransom E. Olds of Lansing who starts Michigan's first auto company in 1900. Like King and Ford, Olds develops a gasoline-powered engine. In 1900, after setbacks, Olds opens the nation's first factory designed specifically for auto production. The following year he begins producing the Curved-dash Runabout, which has a one-cylinder engine and is lightweight and inexpensive. Other plants were built in Lansing and Flint. Detroit soon became known as the Automobile Capital of the World.

During both World Wars, the entire automobile industry switched to manufacturing tanks, jeeps, airplanes, and other needed war materials. This production helped to end the Great Depression.

In 1955, a new copper mine opened in Ontonagon. Shipping was facilitated in 1957 with the completion of the Mackinac Bridge, connecting the Upper and Lower Peninsulas. The Mackinac Bridge is one of the longest suspension bridges in the world. Connecting the upper and lower peninsulas of Michigan, it spans 5 miles over the Straits of Mackinac, which is where Lake Michigan and Lake Huron meet. The Mighty Mac took three years to complete and was opened to traffic in 1957.



## \*COMMANDER'S CORNER\*

### How does YOUR regalia look?

We have all heard the statement that the 4th Degree is the "visible arm of the Order" or that the 4th Degree is the "window to our Order". But how seriously do we take this honor? We have heard the jokes about the Color Corp member who falls out wearing black tennis shoes or a pink cape, but can these same jokes be made about YOU or the other members of your assembly's Color Corp?

Traditionally the beginning of the new year is an opportunity for us to take stock of where we are and to make changes in where we want to be in our lives. It is a perfect time to inspect the Color Corp member's regalia. Let us all resolve to begin laying the foundation for a smarter, sharper Color Corps / Honor Guard team that will motivate 3rd Degree members to become 4th Degree members and non members to become a part of our Order. Are the tuxedos cleaned and pressed? The Navigator and Color Corp Commander should lead by example. How does your cape look? Is it wrinkled? Is it yellow instead of white? Is the Color Corp Commander's cape a rich purple or is it sort of a pastel purple or violet? Are your black shoes polished if you are not wearing tuxedo shoes? Are the plumes of your chapeau matted down and gray? Are your gloves clean and white?

We ARE the visible arm of the Order and how we conduct ourselves; how we look and act while in uniform can either harm or help the image of the Knights of Columbus.

**Before you say one word in public, before you post the American flag or before you lead a procession, you and your fellow Sir Knights will be judged on your appearance.** Many simple and cost effective things can be done to make sure that this first impression will be a lasting and inspiring one.

Many assemblies plan a regular fall out for their Color Corp members to practice the various commands and to inspect regalia. If your assembly does not already do so, schedule a practice session for all Color Corp members an hour before or an hour after your regular monthly meeting. During this time, have a general inspection of your equipment and clothing. Inspect capes for stains, faded colors, or wrinkles. Check swords to make certain that service baldric fits appropriately and the swords do not

easily fall off the baldric. Make sure that baldrics are clean, that the white is "white" and not gray and that there are no stains on the baldric. Gloves should be inspected to insure they are in good repair and that they are a bright white. Check to make sure that the plumes of your chapeau are fluffy and not matted down.

Any equipment deemed to be in need of replacement should be taken out of service and the member stand down until the equipment is replaced. Share equipment if necessary. If for instance, during a fall out for a casket guard, perhaps the member can borrow the equipment from another member present in order to take a turn as an Honor Guard at the casket. Not all members may be able to fall out for an event, if a Color Corp member is not able to attend an event perhaps he would be willing to loan his equipment to another member waiting to replace his own.

Many members have had difficulties the last few years with their personal finances and may not be able to immediately replace defective equipment. If an assembly has a contingency fund to help members who are in financial distress, the assembly might consider helping the member by way of an interest free loan. An assembly may also wish to hold a fundraiser to purchase items that can be loaned out, but would remain the property of the assembly. Most assemblies already stock extra sets of gloves and pins to use if a member forgets or loses an item, it is not a huge leap to purchase a couple extra swords, capes, and chapeaus to have in reserve in case of emergencies.

Finally, when falling out for an event, the Color Corp Commander might wish to have available a lint brush, an extra pair of gloves, an extra service baldric, and pins. The Navigator or Color Corp Commander should make contact with all members at least 48 hours in advance not only to have an accurate head count of members falling out, but to also remind members to inspect the regalia and to steam capes so they appear fresh and unwrinkled, this way all members will look their best.





4th Degree Michigan District # 4  
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Newsletter Editor  
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**