



# The District Sentinel



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

**Vol. 2 Issue 4 4th Quarter 2014**

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,

After a long and hard winter, the season of spring is on the calendar. However, gazing out the window brings about many doubts. The

season of Lent is the time to prepare us for the great celebration of Easter and the joys and blessings it brings. Lady Beverly and I do wish these joys and blessings are bestowed upon you and your families. Also, we do wish all mothers a **HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY!**

Our next District Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 5, 2014 at Sacred Heart Parish Center in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Please 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. A separate meeting notice will be sent to all Assemblies with an agenda of items to be discussed.

The big event almost upon us is the District 4 Exemplification which is to take place May 3, 2014 at St. James parish Center and Church in Montague, Michigan. The Class Honoree is Rev. Fr. Donn Tufts.

**TO MAKE THIS EXEMPLIFICATION A SUCCESS WE NEED CANDIDATES! Assemblies need to be working with the Councils it serves by encouraging our 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Brothers to join the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degrees and our 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Brothers to continue their journey to the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree.** Also, please procure Ads for the Program Book. The Ads greatly help to offset the expense of the exemplification. If you are proposing a candidate and/or need information regarding the Exemplification or registration forms, please contact your assembly navigator or comptroller as this information and registration forms were sent to them.

Please do not forget about our District Project "Operation Patriotism" for the Veterans. This project was agreed to by the body at our last District Meeting on October 19, 2013. This project concerns the purchase of a Blanket Warmer (\$5,800.00) for the Grand Rapids Veterans Home and eight Assist Wheel Chairs (\$1,100.00) for the Veterans Hospital in Saginaw. The total cost of this District Project is (\$6,900.00) with each of the 23 Assemblies in District 4 contributing \$300.00. The target date for the completion of this project is June,1, 2014. Thus far only 3 Assemblies have made a contribution. Please send your check to District 4 Comptroller FMFD Robert Godi, 1718 Ashwood Drive, Reese, MI 48757-9438. Be sure to indicate "Operation Patriotism" on the memo line of the check.

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

As a reminder, election of Assembly officers for the 2014 - 2015 Fraternal Year take place during the month of May. Also, an item of importance is keeping your Assembly's tax free status current. Please file your report with the IRS by May 15. If they do not hear from you within a three year period your Assembly will lose its tax free status. Most Assemblies can do this by filing the simple 990-EZ Form on line.

Looking ahead, our Fall Exemplification in District 4 will take place in Bay City on Saturday October 25, 2014 at the Double Tree Hotel. The Host Assembly will be announced in the near future.

**VIVAT JESUS!**

Bob Krauseneck  
Master  
Michigan District #4



**\*UPCOMING EVENTS\***

April 1<sup>st</sup> ..... April Fool's Day  
 April 5<sup>th</sup> ..... **4<sup>th</sup> Degree District #4, District Meeting**  
**Sacred Heart Parish Center - Mt. Pleasant**  
**(9:00 AM Registration, 10:00 AM Meeting,**  
**12:00 PM Lunch)**  
 April 13<sup>th</sup> ..... Palm Sunday  
 April 15<sup>th</sup> ..... Tax Day  
 April 17<sup>th</sup> ..... Maundy Thursday  
 April 18<sup>th</sup> ..... Good Friday  
 April 19<sup>th</sup> ..... Holy Saturday  
 April 20<sup>th</sup> ..... Easter Sunday  
 April 22<sup>nd</sup> ..... Earth Day  
 April 27<sup>th</sup> ..... Divine Mercy Sunday

**May .... Assembly Election of Officers for 2014-2015**  
**May 3<sup>rd</sup> ..... Michigan District #4 Exemplification**  
 St. James Parish Center

5149 Dowling St., Montague, Michigan 49437

May 11<sup>th</sup> ..... Mother's Day  
 May 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> ..... Michigan Knight of Columbus  
 State Convention at Mackinac Island  
 May 29<sup>th</sup> ..... **Feast of the Ascension**  
**Holy Day of Obligation**  
 May 27<sup>th</sup> ..... Memorial Day

June 8<sup>th</sup> ..... Pentecost Sunday  
 June 14<sup>th</sup> ..... Flag Day  
 June 15<sup>th</sup> ..... Fathers Day  
 June 19<sup>th</sup> ..... **Feast of Corpus Christi**  
**June 30 ..... Fraternal forms due**  
**Form #2321 Civic Award Application**  
**Form # TBP-1 To Be a Patriot Award**  
**From #2863A RSVP and Plaque Application**

**Souvenir Program Ads**

***Has your Assembly sold an ad yet???***

It is not easy to put together an Exemplification that is 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 ad and then also sell at least one additional full page ad.**

Full page ..... \$100                      1/2 page ..... \$60  
 1/4 page ..... \$40                         1/8 page ..... \$20

**All ADS MUST BE TURNED IN BY MONDAY**  
**APRIL 21, 2014**

See the Michigan District #4 web site for an ad form and directions for sending in your forms.

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

- **The next District Meeting will be Saturday, April 5, 2014 at Sacred Heart Parish Center in Mt. Pleasant.** Registration is from 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM with coffee and donuts. The meeting is from 10:00 AM - Noon, followed by lunch.
- **The Bi-Annual election will take place during the District Meeting on Saturday April 5, 2014.** This election is in accordance with the Supreme By-laws and is to provide an opportunity for delegates from each assembly to vote on their choice for District Master.
- **Nominations for candidates as Master of Michigan District #4 in the Bi-Annual election will be taken from the floor** during the designated time during the District Meeting. Nomination speeches will be limited to two minutes.  
**Those nominated must be present to accept the nomination and have a resume available** detailing their experience within the Knights of Columbus organization and any relevant experience that would show their ability to lead a service organization.
- **On Saturday, May 3, 2014, Michigan District #4 will be hosting the spring 4th Degree Exemplification.** Bishop Frederic Baraga Assembly #474 will again host an Exemplification. It will be held at the St. James Parish Center in Montague. The Comfort Inn Hotel located at 2822 North Durham Rd in Whitehall is our host hotel. For those coming from out of town and wishing lodging, you may phone the hotel at 1-231-893-4833 no later than April 27th for reservations. The K of C room rate is \$59.99 plus taxes.
- **There are (23) assemblies in Michigan District #4. There should be (23) "Civic Award" applications, "To Be A Patriot" applications, "Sir Knight of the Year" submissions and Newsletter of the Year submissions** to the District Master. Although most of these awards are not due until June 30th, your assembly should be sending your submissions to the District Master as soon as you can.
- **May means elections and even though the Form #186 Report Officers Chosen for the Term is not due until July 1st, please fill out the form immediately and send a hard copy to the District Master.** In addition, please make sure the State Directory form is filled out completely and correctly, then sent in immediately as well.



## \*FRIAR'S FORUM\*

March 13 marked the one year anniversary of the election of Pope Francis I. Over the course of this past year, Pope Francis has modeled for us his name sake, St. Francis. It is heard in his preaching and seen in his actions, his simplicity, his love for the poor, and his challenges to the shepherds of the church.

This atmosphere of his pontificate is beautifully put forth as a challenge in the 2014 Lenten message of our Holy Father to the Church. The theme of poverty and wealth is not just a matter of economics. It is reflective of our Christian way of life on the path of holiness. He conveys this message with the following words.



*"Christ's poverty is the greatest treasure of all: Jesus' wealth is that of his boundless confidence in God the Father, his constant trust, his desire always and only to do the Father's will and give glory to him."*

This Lenten challenge begs the question, what is our poverty? Where is our wealth? The answer is not in our economic state. It is in our spiritual state. Christ's poverty was within his ability and willingness to empty himself of everything. It proved to be his greatest treasure. It brought about salvation, spiritual peace, and unity with the Kingdom of heaven in praising God.

These treasures become our treasures when the poverty of Christ becomes our poverty. It will demand that we be rich in humility and poor in pride, rich in dependency and poor in power. We will have to be rich in holiness and poor in sinfulness, rich in sacrifice and poor in selfishness. We have to be rich in prayer and poor in our separation from God. This unity with Christ boldly proclaims the Good News of Jesus through our mercy to those who hurt us, our generosity to the poor, our time given to God, and the love we show forth in the world, just like Jesus, just like St. Francis.

In name, in word, and in deed, our beloved Pope Francis challenges us all to a new awakening of what it means to truly be united with Christ. We would do well, my fellow Knights, to take our Pope's Lenten message to

heart: Embrace the poverty of Christ in order that we may know his wealth. It is an eternal wealth.

Have a blessed Lent, my brother Knights!

Fr. Bill Rutkowski  
District Friar



Please Remember in  
Your Prayers



SK Roman Winkler PGK, SK Raymond & Lady Rosemary Reinhold, SK Sergio Cusion, Christopher Kolomjec, Jr. (son of State Director Christopher Kolomjec), James E. Hayes PSD, R. Martin Poleni PSD, Carroll Graves FDD, Sophia Cerniglia (daughter of SK Ted Cerniglia), Fr. Phil Witkowski, 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 Fr. Thomas Schiller, SK John A. Matthews PSD, FVSM, SK Leroy Witt FMFD, SK Dennis J. Hendershot, SK Gene Kendra, Robert C. Grove (father of SK Robert Grove), David McCloy (son of PSD Richard McCloy) and Jackie Lewis (niece & God daughter of State Membership Director William Leveque)

*"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 Shot heard around the world ..."**



The Battles of Lexington and Concord were actually the first military engagements of the American Revolutionary War. They were fought on April 19, 1775, in Middlesex County, Province of Massachusetts Bay, within the towns of Lexington, Concord, Lincoln, Menotomy (present-day Arlington), and Cambridge, near Boston. The battles marked the outbreak of open armed conflict between the Kingdom of Great Britain and its thirteen colonies in the mainland of British North America. British troops were sent to Concord to capture John Hancock and Samuel Adams, but both men had been warned about the British attack.

Hoping to surprise the Americans, on the evening of April 18, 1775, a British infantry force of 700 men boarded naval barges in Boston to cross the Charles River to Cambridge, about three miles to the west. Around 2:00 a.m. early the next morning, the troops started marching to Concord, approximately 17 miles to the west of Cambridge. Their objective was to seize and destroy the colonial munitions and arms stored at Concord. The colonists, however, had intelligence that the British were going to try to seize the weapons and munitions in Concord, and the colonists previously had moved most of those materials to another location. Moreover, the colonists had intelligence on the night of April 18th that the British troops were going to make that attempt the next day.

British relations with her American colonies deteriorated during the period from 1765 through 1775. Especially towards the end of that period, the colonists were organizing militias, training the Minute Men in how to wage war and gathering and storing munitions and weapons. One of the places for such storage was Concord, Massachusetts, which was about 20 miles northwest of Boston.

It was no secret to the British that the Americans were preparing for war, and the British had secret intelligence that colonial weapons and munitions were being stored in Concord.

This prompted the famous midnight ride of Paul Revere and another rider (William Dawes) to warn the militias in Lexington and Concord and others in towns along the way that the British were coming.

At sunrise on the 19th the British troops entered Lexington, a village of about 800 people. In the village common green, 80 or so Minute Men stood at attention in plain sight in parade-ground formation just watching the British troops. The British troops turned and advanced toward the Minute Men. There were shouts and confusion when one shot rang out by whom no one knows for certain. This precipitated other shots, and eight militia men were killed and ten were wounded.

The American Revolutionary War had started. The 700 British troops soon reformed into a column and commenced their march to Concord, a village of about 1,500 people approximately seven miles to the west. As they approached Concord, about 250 militia men saw that they were heavily outnumbered and retreated, and the town was surrendered to the British. The British found three large cannons and smashed them so they could not be moved.

At the North Bridge over the Concord River just outside the town, a contingent of militia men outnumbered the British troops. Gunfire erupted, and the British troops abandoned their wounded and fled to the safety of another contingent of British soldiers. Around noon the British left Concord.

On their return march to Lexington, the British were ambushed and suffered losses as the number of militia men kept growing with reinforcements from other towns. Around 2:30 p.m. a full brigade of 1,000 British soldiers with artillery arrived to reinforce and rescue their retreating comrades. After a short rest at Lexington, they resumed their return march to Boston around 3:30 p.m. All along their return they were attacked by militia men, many firing their muskets from behind trees and stone fences.

The battles at Lexington and Concord were not major ones in terms of tactics or casualties. But they were important in showing the ability of the colonists to fight and the failure of the British to enforce the Intolerable Acts, capture weapons and munitions and prevent hostilities from the colonists.

In 1837 Ralph Waldo Emerson commemorated the fight at Concord's North Bridge in his "Concord Hymn" with these words: "By the rude bridge that arched the flood; their flag to April's breeze unfurled; Here once the embattled farmers stood; and fired the shot heard round the world."

## \*Right to Life Issues\*

### Michigan Abortion Law Precedent

The legal history and precedent of Michigan's abortion law is one of the most consistent and unique in the entire nation. Dating back to 1846, Michigan law has continuously prohibited abortion, with the only exception being an abortion to save the life of the mother. This reflects a simple, but profound public policy that is both logical and ultimately compassionate: human life is of ultimate value and each life equally so. No human being's life is more valuable than another. Thus, only in the case where both the life of the mother and the child cannot be saved is there a justification for purposely taking the life of the child in order to save the mother.

The following facts demonstrate Michigan's unique status as a protector of the rights of unborn human beings:

- Michigan's ban on abortion remains on the books and has been continuously enforceable since 1846. It is currently only partially enforceable since *Roe v. Wade*. The Michigan Supreme Court, however, established very clearly after *Roe*, that Michigan's policy is to prohibit abortion except to save the life of the mother (*People v. Bricker*, 1973).
- The voters of Michigan rejected the legalization of abortion in the statewide ballot Proposal B of 1972, voting 61 percent to 39 percent to retain the abortion prohibition.
- Public Act 59 of 1987, enacted via a citizen-initiated petition, ended Medicaid funding of abortion with only a life of the mother exception. PA 59 was then placed on the ballot for a referendum repeal vote in November 1988. Despite the emphasis by the pro-repeal campaign that the law had no "rape or incest exception," voters upheld the ban 57 percent to 43 percent.
- Michigan's parental consent for abortion law (PA 211 of 1990), enacted via a citizen-initiated petition, and contains no exception for cases of rape or incest.
- Michigan's 24-hour waiting period/informed consent law (PA 133 of 1993) contains no exception for cases of rape or incest.
- Michigan's ban on Partial Birth Abortions (PA 168 of 2011) contains no exception for cases of rape and incest.

Michigan is the only state in the nation with a state court ruling declaring that no right to abortion exists in its state constitution. In contrast to 17 state supreme courts issuing "state-level *Roe v. Wade* decisions," the ruling in *Mahaffey v. Attorney General* (Michigan Court of Appeals, 1997, affirmed by Michigan Supreme Court,

1998), declared no such right to abortion exists in Michigan's Constitution. That ruling cited several factors for this finding, including the state's long-standing abortion prohibition and the voters' rejection of legal abortion in 1972.



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

### Prayer to End Abortion

My Heavenly Father, thank you for Your Gift of Life, for my life and for the lives of all my brothers and sisters. I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion, yet I rejoice that you have conquered death by the Resurrection of Your Son.

I am ready to do my part in ending abortion. Today I commit myself never to be silent, never to be passive, and never to be forgetful of the unborn.

I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement and never to stop defending life until all my brothers and sisters are protected, and our nation once again becomes a nation with liberty and justice not just for some, but for all.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



*"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful." ~ John 14:27*

## \*COMMANDER'S CORNER\*

On Saturday, May 3, 2014, Michigan District #4 will be hosting the spring 4th Degree Exemplification. With this in mind, it is important for each assembly to prepare and instruct candidates on the proper dress codes for a 4th Degree Exemplification.

### OFFICIAL REGALIA DRESS – CANDIDATES

The Fourth Degree regalia dress is as follows:

- Black Tuxedo
- Plain White Tuxedo Shirt - pleated and **with lay down collar (No wing tip collars)**
- Black Bow Tie
- Tuxedo Studs and Cuff Links
- Black Cummerbund (**No Vests**)
- Polished Plain Black Dress Footwear with black socks (**No Tennis Shoes or Casual Footwear**)

Ideally, the sponsor of a candidate will assist the candidate in obtaining the proper pieces to make up his uniform for the special day. Ultimately it is the responsibility of the Navigator and Comptroller to ensure that the candidate is dressed properly when he arrives to the Exemplification site.

This bears repeating:

***"Ultimately it is the responsibility of the Navigator and Comptroller to ensure that the candidate is dressed properly when he arrives to the Exemplification site."***

Each candidate arrives at the Exemplification wondering what the day will hold for him. He has great expectations because members have told him about how extraordinary the day will be. They have been told how it will be filled with patriotism, pride, and pomp & circumstance.

When a candidate arrives for the Exemplification, he will be placed with all the other candidates. If he is not dressed properly he will soon begin to understand something is wrong. Someone tell will him that he is improperly dressed whether that is another candidate or a well meaning member. Now the candidate feels embarrassed and possibly humiliated, all because someone along the line failed him and failed him badly!

This is his first time doing this; he doesn't know any better unless someone has instructed him. **As the leadership of your assembly, it is your responsibility to make sure your new members are informed about the proper dress, have their tickets, and are aware of the day's itinerary.** Let us all do our part to make sure that our new Sir Knights, their ladies, and our Class Honoree have nothing but a memorable day.

Members attending the Exemplification should also take care to make sure that they are dressed properly. The dress code is similar to that for the candidates but has a few other requirements.

### OFFICIAL REGALIA DRESS – MEMBERS

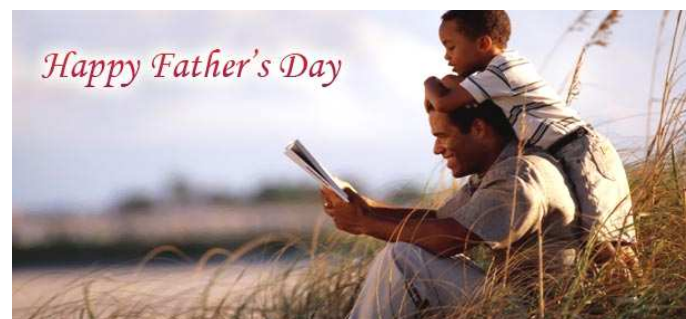
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- Black Bow Tie
- Tuxedo Studs and Cuff Links
- Black Cummerbund (**No Vests**)
- Polished Plain Black Dress Footwear with black socks (**No Tennis Shoes or Casual Footwear**)
- Social Baldric (**Worn under the coat, from right shoulder to left hip**)
- Lapel Pin
- Name Badge if applicable
- Jewel of office if currently in office

Ensuring that your members are dressed properly is just as important as making sure your candidates are properly dressed. Not only should members be leading by example, but it reflects poorly on your assembly and the district if member are not dressed properly as well.

As for every Exemplification, we ask anyone who has regalia to bring it in order to participate in the day's events. The more men we have fall out, the more impressive the day will be for the new Sir Knights and their Ladies. It also makes the day's work easier when you have enough people to do the job well.

If we all work together as a team and lead by example, we are assured to provide a powerful and patriotic Exemplification for the new Sir Knights and honor Fr. Donn Tufts as the class honoree.







4th Degree Michigan District # 4  
SK Thomas F. Ketchum PGK, PFN, FDD  
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**