



# The District Sentinel



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

**Vol. 3 Issue 4 4th Quarter**

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## \*MASTER'S MESSAGE\*

Worthy Sir Knights and Ladies,

Spring is finally here! What a cold and harsh winter we had. I trust everyone had an enjoyable Christmas season with family and

friends. Lent is now in full swing with Easter Sunday just around the corner. Lady Beverly and I want to wish you and your family a very Happy and Joyous Easter full of sunshine.

As a reminder, the "Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity" (Form 1728) was due to Supreme by January 31, 2015. Please, a few Assemblies have not sent a copy to Supreme or me. I will follow up on the delinquent reports. It is very imperative that this survey is submitted in order for the Knights of Columbus to retain its "Non-Profit Status".

Please don't forget about our District Project "Operation Patriotism". The total cost of the District Project was \$6,900.00. It was at one of our District Meetings that it was voted on to have each assembly contribute \$300.00 towards the projects. The target date for the completion has had to be extended due to insufficient funds for the eight Assist Wheel Chairs. We are still \$900.00 dollars short. Please consider helping out to complete our project by sending a check to District Comptroller Robert Godi, 1718 Ashwood Drive, Reese, MI 48757-9438. Be sure to indicate on the Memo Line of your check "Operation Patriotism".

A check was presented to the Grand Rapids Veterans Home on November 5, 2014 for a new Blanket Warmer. I was there with our State Deputy Bob Fox, David Reese (coordinator of the Moto Bike Run fundraiser in Grand Rapids), twelve Color Corp members and several other Sir Knights and Ladies. The donation was greatly appreciated by all of the veterans and Executive Staff present.

Also, 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.

The District 4 Exemplification which will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2015 hosted by the Bishop Kevin M. Britt Assembly #3102 at Holy Redeemer Church and Parish Center in Jenison, Michigan. Assemblies need to be working with the Councils they serve by encouraging 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Brothers to join the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degrees and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Brothers to continue their journey to the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree. WE NEED CANDIDATES TO MAKE THIS EXEMPLIFICATION A SUCCESS!!! The Class Honoree is Fr. Lam T. Le who is with the Grand Rapids Diocese. Also, 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 and/or sell at least one Ad for the Program Book.

Another Benefit Run is being planned in the Grand Rapids Diocese for the Michigan Veterans. Last year, the Benefit Run generated over \$7,400.00 for the Veterans. This year, the benefit is scheduled for July 18, 2015. More information will be published as it becomes available.

Last but certainly not least, our State Convention will be held on May 21, 22 and 23, 2015 on Mackinaw Island. Our District 4 is the Host District for the State Deputy, Robert Fox and responsible for the Living Rosary on Friday morning, May 22, 015. If you have never witnessed the Living Rosary on the front lawn of the Grand Hotel, please consider participating in your regalia for a truly lifting experience.

Bob Krauseneck  
Master  
Michigan District #4





## \*FRIAR'S FORUM\*

My Brother Knights,

Lent is and always has been a Penitential Season. We embrace acts of penance as a way to express to God true sorrow for our sins. With a repentant heart, we place our lives before the mercy of God. The ultimate sign of God's mercy is the sacrifice of His son Jesus on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. It is by faith that we accept the gift of God's mercy by believing in Jesus, loving Jesus, and uniting our lives to his life.

Two important facts of God's mercy. First, it is a free gift of grace. St. Paul tells us that there is nothing that a person can do to earn God's mercy (Ephesians 2:8). We accept the gift through faith in Jesus. Second, it is our mission to be "*ambassadors for Christ*", entrusted with the "*ministry of Reconciliation*" (2Corinthians 5:18, 20). We are recipients of God's mercy and we are heralds of God's mercy. Both are essential elements of being a Christian, being the Church, and being a Knights of Columbus member.

The centrality of God's mercy is not limited to Lent. Pope Francis desires to make this clear to the Church and to the world by calling for *An Extraordinary Jubilee: a Holy Year of Mercy*. This special year will begin December 8, 2015-November 10, 2016.

In calling for this Holy Year of Mercy the Pope gives some us some beautiful thoughts to ponder. "*The mission of the Church is to be a witness of mercy.*" "*It is a journey that starts with a spiritual conversion.*" Pope Francis reminds us, "*The Holy Year is traditionally a year of forgiveness of sins and also the punishment merited by one's sins. It is also a year for reconciliation between enemies, conversion and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.*" "*Mercy is the best thing we can feel: it changes the world. A little mercy makes the world less cold and more just.*" "*We need to understand properly this mercy of God, this merciful Father who is so patient.*"

I encourage every Knight to please take to heart this essential element of our Faith. Start with the two important facts of God's mercy. First accept the gift God's mercy. Profess your faith in Christ Jesus. Confess your sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Express your unity with Christ. Secondly, be an ambassador of Christ by being a minister of Reconciliation. Be an instrument of peace in your marriage and family, your neighborhood and workplace, your Council and Assembly. It is unacceptable for a Knight to be source of division or disunity. It runs contrary to the essence of who we are as Christ in the world.

There is no better time to reawaken our life and mission of mercy than Lent. But we can't stop there. The Easter Triduum is a profound celebration of God's mercy that

leads right into Divine Mercy Sunday. Accepting and celebrating the Mercy of God must move us to be the instrument by which we freely embrace a pattern of daily giving to others the gift that God so freely gives to us: His Divine Mercy. With a Lent, Easter Season, and an upcoming Ordinary Time centered on the Mercy of God we will be well poised to observe the special Jubilee: *the Holy Year of Mercy*.

Fr. Bill Rutkowski  
District Friar  
Michigan District #4

## EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY

DEC. 8, 2015 - NOV. 20, 2016



"IT WILL BE A HOLY YEAR OF MERCY."  
-POPE FRANCIS

### \*Right to Life Issues\*

You are special! As unique human beings our lives began at the moment of fertilization. Explore the miraculous facts of our earliest days of life. These 40 weeks of facts are recognized in medical textbooks as well as basic biology books.

#### 40 Weeks of Fetal Development

**Week 1:** Though the baby hasn't been conceived yet, doctors start the gestational age here, with the end of the mother's last cycle.

**Week 2:** At the end of week two, fertilization occurs and a unique, complete human being with 46 chromosomes detailing an entire development throughout life has entered the world!

**Week 3:** The baby's cells are dividing and growing rapidly as it travels down the fallopian tube to implant in the wall of the womb.

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**Week 4:** The baby is the size of a period at the end of a sentence, and cells in the baby have separated off to form the placenta which will nourish the child until birth.

**Week 5:** Organ systems are beginning to develop and the baby's heart starts to beat, just 21 days after fertilization.

**Week 6:** The baby's neural tube closes, eventually becoming the fully-formed brain and spinal cord. The baby's tiny heart is already pumping blood and beats 80 times a minute, and she is 1/8 of an inch long.

**Week 7:** Tiny nostrils are visible and the baby's hands and feet are beginning to take shape.

**Week 8:** The baby is 1/2 of an inch long. Only six weeks after coming into existence fingers, ears and eyes can be seen. Taste buds are forming on her tongue and tooth buds are taking shape.

**Week 9:** The baby has grown a quarter of an inch in just a week and it's tiny toes are now visible.

**Week 10:** The baby's eyelids close to protect the complex eyes while they form. Each minute the baby's brain develops 250,000 new neurons and baby can now move it's muscles.

**Week 11:** The baby is two inches long. She has reached the end of the embryonic stage and is now known as a "fetus," Latin for "young one." The kidneys are developing and produce urine for the first time.

**Week 12:** Fingernails have begun forming on the baby's small fingers.

**Week 13:** Bones are beginning to harden in the baby's head, arms and legs.

**Week 14:** The baby is 3 1/2 inches long and if we had a window to the womb we could tell if it is a girl or if he was a boy.

**Week 15:** The baby's hair pattern is forming.

**Week 16:** An ultrasound at this point would reveal the baby moving it's legs and arms, maybe even sucking it's thumb. It might also be able to determine its gender.

**Week 17:** Fat begins to form to keep the baby warm and cozy afterbirth.

**Week 18:** The baby is 5 1/2 inches long and might hear her first sound with her developing ears.

**Week 19:** A waxy substance called vernix begins to cover the baby's skin to protect her from the amniotic fluid.

**Week 20:** Halfway through 40 weeks, the baby's mother might begin to feel her tiny movements for the first time.

**Week 21:** The baby is now 10 inches long, measured head to heel. Her digestive system is getting exercise as she swallows amniotic fluid.

**Week 22:** Hair becomes visible. The baby's eyebrows might even be visible and her body is covered in small, fine hairs called lanugo to help hold the protective vernix to her skin.

**Week 23:** We could take the baby's fingerprints and rapid eye movements start occurring. Is the baby

dreaming, and what does a baby in the womb dream about?

**Week 24:** The baby is almost 12 inches long and has been regularly sleeping and waking. Her mother might be able to guess which she is doing based on her movement.

**Week 25:** Her mother's voice or other familiar sounds are recognized by the baby, who responds to them.

**Week 26:** Lungs are getting stronger in the baby, who is 14 inches long now. Her teeth buds are apparent in her gums.

**Week 27:** The baby has reached the end of the second trimester. Every major body system is present and has been functioning, and only 13 more weeks of exercise in the womb are needed to make her ready for the wide world.

**Week 28:** Eyelids have reopened and the baby's eyelashes are present.

**Week 29:** The baby's bones have finished forming, though they are soft in preparation for continued growth.

**Week 30:** The baby's eyes are wide open now and she has a full head of hair.

**Week 31:** The baby's brain has developed enough to control breathing and her own body temperature independent of mother.

**Week 32:** The baby's first haircut happens as lanugo begins to fall off.

**Week 33:** Small pupils in the baby's eyes can function, dilating and constricting in dim or bright light.

**Week 34:** Fingernails have now fully grown out on her fingers as the baby reaches more than a foot and a half in length.

**Week 35:** In preparation for birth, the baby begins to gain lots of weight, about a half a pound every week.

**Week 36:** The baby is getting quite cramped in the womb now, but she is still able to move around. What a big change the next month will bring!

**Week 37:** Almost ready for birth, the baby begins positioning head down in the womb to make birth easier.

**Week 38:** The baby has a firm grasp with her hands and is considered full-term at this point.

**Week 39:** While she continues growing in the womb, the baby's family is anxiously waiting and preparing for the moment they can see her with their own eyes for the first time.

**Week 40:** The big day arrives and the baby experiences a whole new world on a day forever remembered. It's an experience more than a million of her fellow babies are deprived of every year in America.

*"Brothers and Sisters: you were once  
darkness, but now you are light in the  
Lord. Live as children of light" ~  
Ephesians 5:8*

## CIVICS 101\*

### How well do you know the Constitution?

We often complain about what is taught in schools and how civic lessons are no longer a part of the standard curriculum, but how well do you know our history or even the basic facts about the US Constitution?

Here are 12 questions that hopefully you can answer correctly and serve as a starting point for our education so that we may better instruct our children and grandchildren.

**Question 1:** In what year was the Constitution first signed?

- A. 1781 B. 1787 C. 1776 D. 1791

**Question 2:** What are the first 10 amendments to the Constitution called?

- A. Declaration of Independence  
B. Article of Confederation  
C. Bill of Rights  
D. Federalist Papers

**Question 3:** Who is known as the "Father of the Constitution"?

- A. George Washington  
B. Benjamin Franklin  
C. James Madison  
D. Thomas Jefferson

**Question 4:** Which amendment preserves the right to a trial by jury in civil cases??

- A. 5th Amendment  
B. 6th Amendment  
C. 7th Amendment  
D. 8th Amendment

**Question 5:** Which amendment reserves certain powers for the States or the people?

- A. 7th Amendment  
B. 8th Amendment  
C. 9th Amendment  
D. 10th Amendment

**Question 6:** Which of the "founding Fathers" did not sign the Constitution?

- A. Benjamin Franklin  
B. Thomas Jefferson  
C. Alexander Hamilton  
D. George Washington

**Question 7:** Who was the oldest "Founding Father" to sign the Constitution?

- A. Rufus King  
B. Jonathon Clayton  
C. George Washington  
D. Ben Franklin

**Question 8:** Why was the first amendment established?

- A. To prevent people from having to quarter soldiers  
B. To give people the right to bear arms  
C. For freedom of speech, religion and the press  
D. To give women the right to vote

**Question 9:** Which word was misspelled in the Constitution?

- A. Delaware  
B. Pennsylvania  
C. Constitution  
D. Liberty

**Question 10:** Which amendment guarantees due process and prohibits double jeopardy??

- A. 5th Amendment  
B. 6th Amendment  
C. 7th Amendment  
D. 8th Amendment

**Question 11:** Which amendment prohibits excessive bail, excessive fines, and cruel and unusual punishments?

- A. 5th Amendment  
B. 6th Amendment  
C. 7th Amendment  
D. 8th Amendment

**Question 12:** Which amendment provides a broad definition of citizenship and guarantees all citizens due process and equal protection of the laws?

- A. 12th Amendment  
B. 13th Amendment  
C. 14th Amendment  
D. 15th Amendment

Answers: 1. A 2. C 3. C 4. C 5. D 6. B 7. D  
8. C 9. B 10. A 11. D 12. C

These are typical questions that are asked of everyone who wishes to become a citizen of the United States, but I wonder how many of us could answer them all correctly and we were born with the gift of citizenship.

Educating our children begins at home and more specifically begins with educating ourselves so that we can pass along a respect for our country and a pride in it's accomplishments so that it will live on when we are gone.



## **\*COMMANDER'S CORNER\***

### **Questions for the Celebrants**

With the weather improving, it might be appropriate to exit the church after mass to the outdoors. The Marshal or the CCC should ask the celebrants if they would like to come outside.

### **Procedures during Mass**

During the Consecration, Knights who are able, should remain standing in the pews. Hold your chapeaus in your right hand, placing it across your heart.

At the end of the Great Amen, the Marshal or Color Corp Commander will step forward so that he is visible to all the Color Corp. He will then give the silent signal to remove gloves. Place your gloves inside your chapeau, and then put your chapeau in your pew.

During the Our Father, the CC members will stand with their left hand on their scabbards. Right hands should be over their hearts.

### **Peace of Christ**

When it is time to offer each other the peace of Christ, CC members should shake hands with the person to their right, to their left, and any parishioners in front of them who turn around to offer the peace of Christ. To reduce noise and distraction for the parishioners, do not turn around to shake hands with knights who are behind you and do not move out of place to shake hands with others.

### **Holy Communion**

CC members are the last to receive communion. When walking up to receive communion, your left hand should be on your scabbard and your right hand should remain over your heart.

When you are standing before the blood of Christ, whether you are going to receive it or not (sometimes there is none left by the time the CC is there), stop and bow, giving reverence to the blood of Christ. Then continue to the back of the church.

### **Lining up at the end of Mass**

After arriving at your pew, wait for the command to put on your gloves with your chapeau in your hand and to reassemble in the vestibule and to line up the same way as you did for the entrance in to mass. If there are too many CC for the space, the Marshal or CCC might choose to have the CC down the center aisle.

Following the final blessing, the Marshal or CCC will do an about face, give the silent command to put on chapeaus and draw swords. Then the Marshal or CCC does another about face and leads the CC to the front of the church. Everyone will wait until the celebrant leaves to kiss the altar. The Marshal or CCC will then venerate the altar and do an about face. The entire CC simultaneously does a center face. As the Marshal or

CCC leads the CC to the back of the church, the CC exits using the Zipper Method (see explanation of the Zipper Method at the end of this article).

### **Honoring our Celebrants**

If weather permits, the Marshal or Color Corp Commander will lead the CC outside of the church. The CC will remain in two columns. The Marshal or CCC will ask the CC to halt. Then he will do an about face and call for the CC to do a center face.

As the celebrant comes out of the church doors, the Marshal or CCC will call for "Present - Sword". The celebrant will then walk between the two columns. The Marshal or CCC will say: "Carry - Sword" followed by "Color Corp - Return - Sword."

After the parishioners have exited the church, the CC will assemble for any pictures with the celebrant. After pictures, the Marshal or CCC will address the CC, followed by any State Officer and/or Master before dismissing them.

### **The Zipper Method**

This is a method for the CC to exit the church using the center aisle. The CC has already done its simultaneous center face and the Marshal or CCC moves to the rear of the church, between the columns. The CC members will now exit, one at a time by single file, alternating between the two columns. This begins with the column to the Marshal's current left. From this left column, the first CC member takes half a step forward with his left foot. With his right foot, he takes an approximately 15 inch step, lands on the ball of his right foot, rotates off the ball of his foot, and proceeds down the center aisle, following the Marshal. From the right column, the first CC member does a right turn by taking a 15 inch step out into the center aisle with his left foot, coming down and rotating on the ball of his left foot, and marching out, behind the first CC member. From the left column, the second CC member takes a half step forward on his left foot. With his right foot, he takes a 15 inch step, lands on the ball of his foot, rotates, and proceeds down the aisle. This process continues, alternating between columns.

When the CC member directly behind the Marshal steps past the last two CC members, he will move to the right side, forming a column. The CC member behind him, as he passes the last two CC members, will move to the left side, forming a second column. This procedure continues until there are two CC members remaining, still at center face. These two CC members will not perform the Zipper Method but instead, starting with the CC member on the left, the remaining CC member will do a left face and fall in with the left column. The CC member on the right, will do a right face and fall in with the right column.

SK Dale Korson  
District # 4 Marshall



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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**