



The District Sentinel



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

Vol. 3 Issue 3 3rd Quarter

Knights of Columbus Supreme Web site www.kofc.org
Hennepin Province web site: www.hennepinprovince.org

Michigan District #4 web site www.mikofcdist4.org

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MASTER'S MESSAGE

Worthy Sir Knights and Ladies,

I certainly hope that you had a very Blessed and Merry Christmas and spent quality time with family and friends. 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. I am sure winter will be here with its abundance of snow and cold temperatures. So please be cautious in pursuing outdoor activities. 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, 2015. Please send me a copy by January 25, 2015 for my records and I will make a copy and mail it to Vice Supreme Master Don Hall. I will send out an email with an attached copy of the survey form indicating the due date. It is very imperative that this survey is submitted timely in order for the Knights of Columbus to retain its "Non- Profit Status".

Our next District Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2015 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. 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 regarding a Blanket Warmer (\$5,800) for the Grand Rapids Veterans

Home and eight Assist Wheel Chairs (\$1,100) for the Veterans Hospital in Saginaw. The total cost of the District Project was \$6,900.00 with each of the 23 Assemblies contributing \$300.00. The target date for the completion was June 1, 2014 and then extended to December 1, 2014 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 4 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.

A heartfelt District 4 "THANK YOU" to all who participated in the drive for "Coats for the Homeless Veterans". Approximately 110 Homeless Veterans are keeping warm because of your participation and generosity. Coats are still being accepted at Council 414 in Bay City and distributed to the homeless veterans. Please call Sir Knight Mark Smith at 989-893-0734 with any questions.

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.

ANOTHER MAJOR EVENT IS ON THE HORIZON AND APPROACHING FAST!!! It is 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 1st Degree Brothers to join the 2nd and 3rd Degrees and 3rd Degree

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Brothers to continue their journey to the 4th Degree. WE NEED CANDIDATES TO MAKE THIS EXEMPLIFICATION A SUCCESS!!! The Class Honoree will be determined and announced with the mailing of the Exemplification information. 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. We can never have too many Ads.

Looking ahead, our Fall Exemplification in District 4 will be back at the Double Tree Hotel in Bay City on Saturday, November 7, 2015. The Host Assembly will be announced in the near future. More information will follow in the next newsletter.

VIVAT JESUS!

Bob Krauseneck
 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 and Fraternal Survey 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 12th Lincoln's Birthday
- February 14th Valentine's Day
- February 15th President's Day
- February 18th Ash Wednesday**
- February 22nd Washington's Birthday

- March 8th Daylight Savings ends
 Turn clocks forward 1 hour at 2:00 AM
- March 17th St. Patrick's Day
- March 20th First Day of Spring
- March 25th Annunciation of the Lord**
- March 25th ... Knights of Columbus Day of the Unborn**
- March 28th ... 4th Degree District #4, District Meeting**
Sacred Heart Parish Center - Mt. Pleasant
9:00 AM Registration ~ 10:00 AM Meeting
- March 29th Palm Sunday**
- March 29th Founders Day**



DISTRICT EVENTS OF NOTE

- **Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Form 1728 is due to Supreme by January 31, 2014.** Send copy by January 25, 2014 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 28, 2015** 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.
- **Michigan District #4 Exemplification will be May 16, 2015.** The host assembly will be the Bishop Kevin M. Britt Assembly #3102 and it will be at Holy Redeemer Parish in Jenison Michigan
- **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.



Prayer Requests

**Please Remember in
 Your Prayers**

SK Roman Winkler PGK, SK Raymond & Lady Rosemary Reinhold, Michael Nowicki (son of SK Dan Nowicki NCD, Lady Candy Cole (wife of SK Paul Cole), Fr. Phil Witkowski, all our priests & clergy, and all of our service men and women here and overseas.

Please pray for the family and the souls of Former Executive Secretary SK Ralph Walters and SK Phil Thelen, former State Director

"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."

*Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done." ~
 Philippians 4:6*

FRIAR'S FORUM

How does Lent play a role in our lives?

In Latin Lent is referred to by the term Quadragesima (meaning "fortieth"), in reference to the fortieth day before Easter. The word lent means "springtime." The traditional purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer through prayer, penance, repentance of sins, almsgiving, atonement and self-denial thus bring a new springtime into their life through forty days of Lenten practices.

The key to understanding the meaning of Lent is simple: **Baptism**. Preparation for Baptism and for renewing our baptismal commitment lies at the heart of the season. Since the Second Vatican Council, the Church has reemphasized the baptismal character of Lent.

Our challenge today is to renew our understanding of this important season of the Church year and to see how we can integrate our personal practices into this renewed perspective.

Why is Baptism so important in our Lenten understanding? Lent as a 40-day season developed in the fourth century from three merging sources. The first was the ancient paschal fast that began as a two-day observance before Easter but was gradually lengthened to 40 days. The second was the catechumenate as a process of preparation for Baptism, including an intense period of preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation to be celebrated at Easter. The third was the Order of Penitents, which was modeled on the catechumenate and sought a second conversion for those who had fallen back into serious sin after Baptism. As the catechumens (candidates for Baptism) entered their final period of preparation for Baptism, the penitents and the rest of the community accompanied them on their journey and prepared to renew their baptismal vows at Easter.

Scrutinies and Penance

The elect deal with sin through the Scrutinies and through the waters of the font; the already baptized deal with sin through the Sacrament of Penance. The same kind of reflection that enables all members of the community to share in the Scrutinies can lead the baptized to celebrate this Sacrament of Reconciliation to renew their baptismal commitment.

Lent is the primary time for celebrating the Sacrament of Penance, because Lent is the season for baptismal preparation and baptismal renewal. Early Christian teachers called this sacrament "second Baptism," because it is intended to enable us to start again to live the baptismal life in its fullness. Those who experience the loving mercy of God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation should find themselves standing alongside the newly baptized at Easter filled with great joy at the new life God has given all of us.

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving

The three traditional pillars of Lenten observance are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The key to renewed appropriation of these practices is to see their link to baptismal renewal.

Prayer: More time given to prayer during Lent should draw us closer to the Lord. We might pray especially for the grace to live out our baptismal promises more fully. We might pray for the elect who will be baptized at Easter and support their conversion journey by our prayer. We might pray for all those who will celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation with us during Lent that they will be truly renewed in their baptismal commitment.

Fasting: Fasting is one of the most ancient practices linked to Lent. In fact, the paschal fast predates Lent as we know it. The early Church fasted intensely for two days before the celebration of the Easter Vigil. This fast was later extended and became a 40-day period of fasting leading up to Easter. Vatican II called us to renew the observance of the ancient paschal fast: "...let the paschal fast be kept sacred. Let it be celebrated everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible, prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the Resurrection may be attained with uplifted and clear mind" (Liturgy, # 110)

Almsgiving: It should be obvious at this point that almsgiving, the third traditional pillar, is linked to our baptismal commitment in the same way. It is a sign of our care for those in need and an expression of our gratitude for all that God has given to us. Works of charity and the promotion of justice are integral elements of the Christian way of life we began when we were baptized.

Stations of the Cross

The liturgy of Lent focuses on the passion and death of the Lord only near the end of the season, especially with the proclamation of the Passion on Palm (Passion) Sunday and again on Good Friday. The weekday readings between the Fifth Sunday of Lent and Palm Sunday also point toward the coming Passion, so that might also be an appropriate time to pray the Stations. The earlier weeks of Lent, however, focus much more on Baptism and covenant than on the Passion.

When we do pray the Stations of the Cross, we can also connect them with the baptismal character of Lent if we place the stations themselves in the context of the whole paschal mystery. In Baptism we are plunged into the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, and our baptismal commitment includes a willingness to give our life for others as Jesus did. Recalling his passion and death can remind us that we, too, may be called to suffer in order to be faithful to the call of God.

One limitation with the traditional form of the Stations is the absence of the second half of the paschal mystery. The liturgy never focuses on the death of Christ without recalling his resurrection. Some forms of the Stations of

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the Cross include a 15th station to recall the resurrection as an integral part of the paschal mystery.

However we choose to approach the season of Lent, it is important that our Lenten practices focus our hearts and minds on the mystery of the life, death, and resurrection not only of our Savior, but also ourselves. This season should help us to die to ourselves and rise to a new life in Christ that lasts well beyond the season of Easter. May your Lent be holy and may it bring you new life!

SK Fr. Ron Hutchinson
Diocesan Friar
Grand Rapids Diocese



Right to Life Issues

March for Life Washington D.C. Thursday, Jan. 22, 2015

The annual March for in Washington, D.C., commemorates the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's infamous *Roe v. Wade* decision that legalized abortion on January 22, 1973.

All Knights and their families, particularly those in the greater Washington, D.C., area, and nearby states, are urged to join the march. Councils planning bus trips to Washington should book their charters early. Knights should carry council banners and K of C posters, wear jackets with the K of C emblem, and walk together to show the Order's support for the right to life.

Knights who cannot go to Washington can participate in local or state pro-life demonstrations. State pro-life chaircouples will have information on local activities sponsored or supported by Knights in their jurisdictions.

Knights are urged to schedule prayer services for unborn children at government monuments or participate in other appropriate activities. Invite Squires' circles, ladies' auxiliaries, parish pro-life groups and similar organizations to attend or co-sponsor planned activities.

To assist your pro-life activities, the Supreme Council offers the following materials (all of which are free of

charge when ordered in reasonable quantities; there is only a shipping charge):

- The brochure "**A People of Life – And for Life**" (#4795) outlines the Order's commitment to reversing the trend toward a culture of death and building a culture that values human life at every stage. The beautifully designed, full-color brochure clearly explains the commonsense and common law basis for the protection of life, and also offers five practical action items to help members, their families and all concerned individuals get involved in building a culture of life. A poster (#4804) with a similar design is also available.
- "**Defend Life**" billboard (#1938 — limit of two per order. Size 10 feet by 20 feet.)
- "**Pregnant? Need help?**" Birthright flyer (#1757)
- "**Pray the Rosary to End Abortion**" poster (#2073) and prayer card (#2072)
- "**Gospel of Life**" poster (#4238) and prayer card (#4237E, F, or S) in English, French or Spanish

These items can be ordered by contacting the Supreme Council Supply Department. For more information on the annual March for Life, contact the March for Life at 202-543-3377 or at www.marchforlife.org.

Knights will gather at noon on 7th Street, between Madison Ave., and Constitution Ave., near the entrance to the Sculpture Garden. Following the March for Life, those that march with the Supreme Council will be invited to a luncheon at Union Station.

While in Washington D.C. for the March for Life, we encourage you to attend these events if your travel plans allow.

- **Wednesday, January 21**
Mass for Life 6:30 P.M.
Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
- **Thursday, January 22**
An Evening with St. John Paul II
5:00 – 8:00 P.M.
St. John Paul II National Shrine
- **Saturday, January 24**
O'Connor Conference on Life
Georgetown University
Co-sponsored by Georgetown University Knights of Columbus Council 6375



CIVICS 101* The Supreme Court

The U.S. Supreme Court is the highest court in the nation. Its decisions set precedents that all other courts then follow, and no lower court can ever supersede a Supreme Court decision. In fact, not even Congress or the president can change, reject or ignore a Supreme Court decision.

American law operates under the doctrine of "*stare decisis*", which means that prior decisions should be maintained even if the current court would otherwise rule differently and that lower courts must abide by the prior decisions of higher courts. The idea is based on a belief that government needs to be relatively stable and predictable. This means that overturning a Supreme Court decision is very difficult.

No single entity - not the President, Senate, House of Representatives, state Governors, nor anyone else - has the power to overturn a US Supreme Court ruling. Supreme Court decisions cannot be nullified by other parts of government. However, if the Supreme Court strikes down a federal law, Congress can always modify the law until it is such that the Supreme Court does not consider it to violate the Constitution, then pass it again.

Supreme Court decisions can only be overturned in two ways:

Procedural Methods

- The US Supreme Court reverses a decision on an earlier case by making a contradictory decision on a current case.
- Congress and the States can overturn a decision by amending the Constitution.

Other Methods

- Sometimes the Executive Branch obstructs or fails to enforce a decision.
- Sometimes Congress rewrites legislation to bring it into compliance with constitutional guidelines.
- Sometimes Congress strips the Supreme Court of its appellate jurisdiction over certain types of cases to deprive them of the ability to overturn a law or policy.
- Sometimes states pass laws that clearly violate Supreme Court decisions, forcing someone with standing to challenge the new law's constitutionality. Meanwhile, the law can be enforced even if it violates established civil rights. State legislatures do this with the hope of overturning, or slipping around, precedents set by earlier Courts.

The very first time a Supreme Court decision was overturned as in February of 1793. The Eleventh Amendment revoked the Supreme Court's original jurisdiction over

conflicts between a state and citizens of another state. This change was made in response to the decision in *Chisholm v. Georgia*, 2 U.S. 419 (1793), in which the Court declared the states lacked sovereign immunity against being sued in equity cases (mostly over land disputes), and made a large award to Chisholm against the state of Georgia.

In *Chisholm v. Georgia* the decision had a major impact on the development of the U.S. and the relationship between federal and state law. The first amendment added to the Constitution after the Bill of Rights was passed by the states due to this decision.

Alexander Chisholm sued Georgia for money owed by the state for Revolutionary War supplies delivered by Robert Farquhar (Chisholm was the executor of Farquhar's estate). The state declined to even respond to the lawsuit, claiming that as a sovereign state (an autonomous political entity) it couldn't be sued by an individual citizen. The Court ruled that the Constitution assigned the power to determine disputes between citizens and states to federal courts.

It only took one year for the states to overrule the decision with the 11th Amendment, which states, in full, "The Judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by Citizens of another State, or by Citizens or Subjects of any Foreign State." The concept of "11th Amendment immunity" has since become a major cornerstone of U.S. law, coming into play when individuals have legal disagreements with a state government.

The States rightly assumed this precedent could quickly send them into bankruptcy, and petitioned Congress to amend the Constitution for their protection. The Eleventh Amendment now provides for diversity jurisdiction in the District Court, meaning the lower courts in the state being sued have original jurisdiction over these disputes.

Eleventh Amendment

"The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another state, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign state."



COMMANDER'S CORNER

Communicating with Celebrants regarding the escorting of gift bearers

The Marshal or CCC should ask the celebrant if altar servers will take part in escorting the gift bearers.

Communicating with gift bearers

The Marshal or CCC should meet with the gift bearers, making them familiar with what the CC will be doing as they escort them to the celebrant.

Before mass begins

The Marshal or CCC should select four CC to escort the gift bearers.

Entering the reserved pews

As mass is about to begin and after CC escorts the celebrant to the front of the church, CC returns to the back of the church by way of the side aisles. The Marshal and CCC will each lead a column. When the columns reach their reserved pews, they will halt and not yet enter the pews. The Marshal (or CCC if the Marshal is not present) will step to the center aisle and give the silent command to return swords and will then motion for the CC to quietly enter the pews. CC members remain facing the center aisle. When all CC members are in their places, the Marshal or CCC will give the signal to remove chapeaus and face the altar.

Sitting while armed with the sword

When it comes time to be seated during the first reading, as you begin to be seated, grasp the upper band of the scabbard with your left hand and carry the sword and the scabbard forward and across your lap. When seated, the sword will then rest in the scabbard with the body of the scabbard at an angle across your lap with the foot of the scabbard pointed toward your right front.

It should be noted that, when you stand, be sure that you grasp the scabbard with your left hand, making sure that your scabbard is still attached to your service baldric before releasing your grasp. It is better, if the scabbard is detached, that it is in your hand and does not fall onto the floor.

Escorting the gift bearers

When the collection is nearly completed, the Marshal or CCC will give the command for the four CC who are escorting the gift bearers to exit their pews and fall in at

the rear of the church. The Marshal or CCC will give the signal to put on chapeaus and draw swords.

At the completion of the collection, the Marshal or CCC will organize the group with the first two escorting CC in the lead, next the gift bearers, followed by the remaining two escorting CC. (Exception: If altar servers are assisting with the escorting of gift bearers, the server with the cross, followed by candle bearers, takes the lead.)

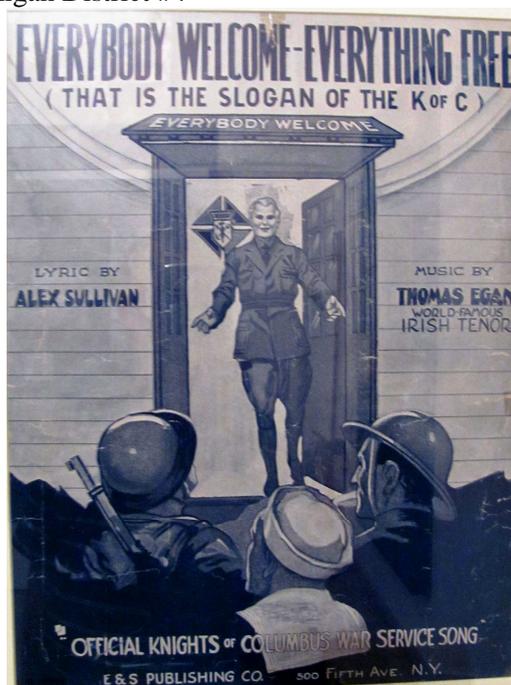
At the appropriate time, the Marshal or CCC will give the silent signal for forward march. The procession will advance slowly to the front of the church, with the first CC escorts stopping one step beyond the front pew. They should wait for 3 seconds (counting "1001, 1002, 1003" is helpful), and the entire procession then bows together. By waiting for 3 seconds, this gives everyone time to be in their positions before bowing simultaneously.

The first two CC escorts do a center face and then take two steps backward. At this point, all four CC escorts go to present sword.

After the last gift has been presented to the celebrant, all four CC escorts will simultaneously go to carry sword. Immediately, the back two CC will do an about face and return to the back of the church. The first two CC will simultaneously take two steps toward each other, do a front face, bow to the altar, do an about face, and then they will exit to the rear of the church.

When the four escorts are at the back of the church, the Marshal or CCC will give the signal to return swords and remove chapeaus. The CC escorts will return to their pews.

SK Dale Korson
District Marshal
Michigan District #4





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