



Knights of Columbus – Chevaliers de Colomb

Fourth Degree

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“Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil.....it has no point”

Worthy Sir Knights and Brother Knights,

As the newly appointed Master of the District of Sask., this is my first message to all Sir Knights as well as to all other knights who are not yet Fourth Degree members.

First of all, I thank Former Master Pat Meuse for his dedicated service as Master of the District of Saskatchewan for the last 5 years. He served as Master during a difficult period of time in our history with the change of the Fourth Degree uniform and during Covid-19. Former Master Pat will continue to serve the Fourth Degree as the Fourth Degree Webmaster and also will continue as Editor of the Fourth Degree Newsletter- The Loyalist. Thank you Pat for your continued service.

I am pleased to announce that I have appointed Bishop Emeritus Albert Thevenot as the District Friar. Bishop Emeritus Albert is an avid supporter of the Fourth Degree. He will assist us in promoting the significance of the Fourth Degree and will remind us why the Patriotic Degree is important to the Knights of Columbus and why we should all be members.

Special thanks as well to the two District Marshalls: Sir Knight Kerry Swallow will continue as the District Marshall in Northern Saskatchewan and Sir Knight Dan Devers will be the Marshall in Southern Saskatchewan.

Who are the Fourth Degree Knights and what is our purpose? The Patriotic Degree reminds us of our duty to God and Country as was emphasized in our Fourth Degree Exemplification. There is more to being a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus than a uniform. “We are the men who have chosen to embrace the principle of Patriotism, the men who lead the efforts to embody the fact that one can be a faithful catholic and also be a faithful citizen.”

When the Knights of Columbus were formed in 1882, three principles united its members: Charity, Unity and Fraternity. At that time, people feared that members of the catholic faith owed their entire allegiance to the Catholic Church and could not be trusted as citizens of their country. Patriotism was added to the Order’s principles in 1900 based on the idea that Knights are loyal to both God and Country.

Members who wish to live out the principle of Patriotism can join the Fourth Degree. I encourage all knights who are not members of the Fourth Degree to join us and those who have left the Fourth Degree because of the new uniform or for some other reason to consider rejoining.

Members of the Fourth Degree have the special honor of holding the title “Sir Knight” participating in color and honor guards if they choose to purchase the new uniform, to

participate in programs that promote catholic citizenship, to support vocations especially military chaplains, and to foster and encourage active citizenship and the spirit of Patriotism in our members and our community at large. We need to show an example to the future generation through our example of charity, defenders of the faith, protectors of our freedoms, and to volunteer in leadership roles to assist to make life better for citizens of our church and our community.

We are more than a social club. I encourage all Assemblies to come up with “one” project this fraternal year that will truly make a difference in our church or in our community. Below are a few examples that assemblies have conducted last year.

-St. Francis Assisi Assembly #2058 in Sierra Visto, Arizona teamed up with all the councils in the area to hold K of C Silver Rose programs in each parish by organizing prayer services, masses, as well as a procession with a Silver Rose and a statue of the Virgin Mary to mark the feast of Our Lady of Fatima.

-Assemblies from Michigan collected clothing, blankets, cleaning products, and personal care items to donate to the homeless.

-Members of an Assembly in Maine provided an honor guard at a prayer service at St. Mary’s Cemetery in Lawrence on the annual National Day of Remembrance for aborted children and gathered at a statue installed by the Assembly commemorating the unborn.

I ask each Assembly in Saskatchewan to come up with one great project for the coming fraternal year that will commit our members to have a purpose to serve the Fourth Principle of our order- PATRIOTISM.

Fourth degree members have often been referred to as the Bishop’s men. The Fourth Degree have attended as an Honor Guard for the Bishops when they attended Mass at a parish. It would be great to continue this Patriotic tradition to show support to our Bishops when they celebrate mass at a parish. This can be done with Sir Knights in the new Fourth Degree uniform as well as others in suit, fourth degree tie and social baldric.

I thank all assembly members and officers for your patriotic service to our church and community and thank the present assembly officers for continuing to guide the destiny of our assemblies into the future.

I look forward to working with all of you to promote the Patriotic Degree and look forward to visiting the Assemblies this fraternal year.

Vivat Jesus,



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