



Faithful Navigator's Message

Hello Fellow Sir Knights,

I pray that everyone had a blessed and wonderful Lenten and Easter season. I must say that it seems at a blink of an eye the Fraternal Year is nearly over.

The Executive Board has been hard at work getting the proposed budget and program plan ready for the next fraternal year, but the task hand that has consumed the bulk of our time is getting a full slate of officers for the 2025-2026 fraternal year. I am happy to report that we have nominations for every officer position and we will have our election at the May Assembly meeting. Also at that meeting I will be presenting the first reading of the proposed Budget Resolution for the next fraternal year. After the reading the budget (along with the program plan) will be sent to the membership for review and as an Assembly we will vote for it's passing at the June meeting.

This is your opportunity to be involved. Please review it and if you have any questions or issues bring them up at the June meeting. We are only as strong as our members!

I look forward to working with you this coming year!

Dr. Steven Wyer FDD PGK PFN

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~ Report of the April 26th Exemplification Ceremony ~

I attended the new Exemplification Ceremony for the 4th Degree, and I must say, it was an impressive display from the 4 Exemplars. I had a chance to visit with the Florida State Master Rob Urrutia, and he was telling me that they received the ceremony script just five weeks ago. Their performance was impressive! There were some microphone issues, but the team were real pros, never skipping a beat in their rendition.

The ceremony lasted about an hour and twenty minutes and the content, although different than the previous version, told the historical contributions and impact that Catholics and the Knights of Columbus have made on our great country.

I thought that this was going to be a watered-down version of the previous ceremony, but it was not. I thought that it was going to be a predominately video-oriented ceremony, and it was not. I thought that the Exemplars would be reading from a prompter, they did not. It was personal, informative, inspirational, and most of all - interesting.

There were 100 new Sir Knights knighted into the order (yes, that is still in the ceremony) with our Assembly having 6 Sir Knights among them. The Color Corps were well represented with around 28 members present including SK Bob Ward and myself.

In the future if you have an opportunity to see the new ceremony, I highly recommend investing the time to do so. *You will not regret it!*



Who Are the Fourth Degree Knights?

The Patriotic Degree reminds us of our duty to God and country.

They are the Knights on Main Street, the men you probably envision when someone says Knights of Columbus to you. They're present in their distinct regalia at civic and Church events, acting as honor guards and color corps, or standing in respect at the funerals of members or during adoration of the Eucharist.

But there is more to being a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus than a uniform. They are the men who have chosen to embrace the Order's fourth principle of patriotism, the men who lead the efforts to reach out to veterans and active military and to embody the fact that one can be a faithful Catholic and also be a faithful citizen.

When the Knights of Columbus was founded 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 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 patriotism together can join "the Fourth Degree." Members of this degree have the special honor of holding the title "Sir Knight," participating in color and honor guards and organizing programs that promote Catholic citizenship. They also become part of a Fourth Degree Assembly in their area. There are more than 3,500 Fourth Degree assemblies around the world.



“It is important, particularly in this day and age, that our Fourth Degree Assemblies encourage active Catholic citizenship and foster the spirit of patriotism in our members and the community at large,”

The Serving Those Who Served program is a major initiative of the Fourth Degree supporting Veterans Affairs facilities. The Knights of Columbus has representatives at almost every Veterans Affairs medical clinic in the United States, where they recruit and manage Knight of Columbus volunteers in developing activities and programs that aid patients’ most essential needs.

The Fourth Degree has also supported priests, in particular those who go on to serve as military chaplains. Through a special scholarship program, the Knights helped fund the education of seminarians preparing to become Catholic chaplains in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Fourth Degree assemblies help Knights to put their faith, and their love of country, into action.

The fourth principle ‘Patriotism,’ commits our members to the preservation of our Church, our Order and to the many nations where Knights serve.

I ask that you please join me in promoting our Assembly!

Dr. Steven Wyer FDD PGK PFN



~ Our Lady of Charity Welcomes 6 New Sir Knights ~

On Saturday, April 26th Our Lady of Charity Assembly had 6 Candidates attend the new Exemplification Ceremony of the 4th Degree. Our new members are:

John Engelbrektson District Deputy—St. Thomas More

Gordon Sapp—Incarnation

Tom Heisey—Incarnation

Dr. Richard Censullo—Incarnation

Richard Lamb—St. Thomas More

Kevin Maguire—St. Thomas More

When you see these new Sir Knights at your Council meetings or around the Parish please congratulate them and welcome them into the Order of the 4th Degree of the Knights of Columbus!



~ The Color Corps Needs You—NOW ! ~

Due to health concerns and the passing of some of our members

We are in need of men to join the most visible arm of the Knights of Columbus and become members of the Color Corps. I promise you that when you join us in becoming members of the Corps, it will enhance your Patriotism and your sense of being a Knight of Columbus. Please contact me or Wayne Brewer to join us.

Steve Wyer cell 941-330-3168 steven.m.wyer@gmail.com



April Sir Knight of the Month

Faithful Comptroller Wayne Brewer PFK PFN

In recognition of his outstanding efforts and generosity. His continued follow up and attention to detail are greatly appreciated! Thank you Wayne!





~ APRIL VETERAN CEMETERY REPORT ~

Both the March and April Veteran Ceremonies were held at Sarasota National Cemetery since our last scheduled Assembly meeting in March.

The March Ceremony was held March 12 where 16 Veterans were honored and 28 Sir Knights and Ladies attended, 8 from our Assembly and 20 from Bishop Charles McLaughlin Assembly #1818 of Venice.

The April Ceremony was held this past Wednesday, April 9 where 26 Veterans were honored. Again, we had 28 Sir Knights and Ladies attend, this time 6 from our Assembly and 22 from Assembly #1818. At this Ceremony, SK Jim Grooms, a retired Army Colonel and a member of our Assembly received the flag.

YTD, we have honored a total of 77 Veterans in these four months, and we have had 117 Sir Knights and Ladies attend. Since inception, this Assembly has attended funerals for 1,737 Veterans. In May, we will complete 15 years of attendance at these funerals and will begin our 16th year doing so!

Assembly members are encouraged to attend if time permits. It is a very moving ceremony, always held at 9 AM on the second Wednesday of every month and is typically complete in less than 30 minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Sir Knight R. G. Marrah



THE PATRIOT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



ASSEMBLY 3089

April 2025 VOL 1 ISSUE 20 OUR LADY OF CHARITY

Photos courtesy of Bob Marrah FDD PGK PFN





Honor Flag Being Escorted Through the Honor Line

By
Sir Knight Jimmy R. Grooms
Our Lady of Charity Assembly



Photo courtesy of Bob Marrah FDD PGK PFN



Prayer List

~ To all Brother Knights and in particular ~

Our intentions

John Baldelli (son of Charles Baldelli), Ed Plankey, Gary Ellis, Don & Jeanne Leonard, John & Kay Maier, Ron McCluskey, Thomas Nate, Christopher Peppard (son of Hank Peppard), Johnnie Turner, Jim Agen, Barbara Jendrysik, Mary Alice Christie, Jim Costa, Orlando Rubano, John Fernander, Kathy Rainey, Stephen Burns, Doris Barger, Frank Giasone, Stephane Recob Malecki, Jane Listwan, Lony Shirk, Melissa Santoyo (Daughter of John Santoyo), Madeleine (Wife of Gary Garvin), Jeanette Cunningham (Mother-in-Law of Chris Williams), Mike Madigan and family, Jim Keiner, Joe Reardon, Joe and Marianne Durso, Yolanda Gangi, Paula Garvin, John Iannotti, Ken Berberich, Ted Bugusz, Dave Bracy, Neil Corrado, Cindi Culkin, Judy Deady, Susan Deblauw, Jean DeVito, Ken Gaasch, Pasquale Guadagno, Jerry Hayes, John Koitsch, Tod Kovacic, Maryanne Noccioli, Margie Noll, Hank Peppard Jr., Tony Picozzi, Louis Minutillo, Bill Bine, Monika Lohr (wife of Richard Lohr)

Repose of their Soul: PFN Peter Tortolano, PFN Ron Angelone, Bobby Tischer (wife of Gene), Joseph Tiffany and John McAlonie.

To Our Service Men and Women, First Responders, and Law Enforcement personnel that they serve to the best of their abilities and return home safe and healthy to their families and love ones.



~ Upcoming Exemplification ~



Knights of Columbus

FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

REACH YOUR HIGHEST POTENTIAL

The Fourth Degree is a group of outstanding Knights, dedicated to promoting patriotism enlightened by their Catholic faith. These Knights, distinguished by exemplary deeds for God, for country, and the Order, are united by the Fourth Degree to support religious, civic, and charitable causes.

Fourth Degree members belong to local units called assemblies. Each assembly is involved in a wide range of public patriotic activities.

Each assembly maintains a Fourth Degree Color Corps and Honor Guard. Uniformed members wearing the Official Uniform, and swords participate in special civic and religious ceremonies. For this reason, the Fourth Degree is often called the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus.

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for the Fourth Degree, one must:

1. Be over 18 years of age.
2. Be a member in good standing with your Council.
3. Be a practical Catholic.

CHARITY★UNITY★FRATERNITY★PATRIOTISM

For Further Information Contact:
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 Florida Jurisdiction
 407-486-7883
 Robert.S.Urrutia84@gmail.com
<https://www.floridakofc.org/June-Exemplification>

Registration ends June 7

**June
14,
2025**

Cathedral of St Ignatius Loyola
 9999 N Military Trail
 Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
 Registration at 9:30 AM
 Exemplification at 11:00 AM
 Banquet at 1:00 PM
 Mass at 4:30 PM



Upcoming Events On The Horizon

May 13th: Assembly Meeting at St. Patrick's 7:00 pm. Officers Meeting starts at 6:15 — Election of Officers, First reading of the 2025-2026 Proposed Budget

May 14th: Direct Burial/No Veteran Left Behind Ceremony at Sarasota National Memorial Cemetery. Starts at 9:00 am.

June 9th: Assembly Meeting at St. Thomas More Chelsea Center 7:00 pm. Officers Meeting starts at 6:15—Second reading of the Budget Resolution and voting for approval.

June 11th: Direct Burial/No Veteran Left Behind Ceremony at Sarasota National Memorial Cemetery. Starts at 9:00 am.

June 14th: Exemplification at Cathedral of St. Ignatius Loyola

Upcoming in June: Assembly Celebration Dinner—Details to be announced!

This concludes the fraternal year!



2024-2025 Assembly Officers

Faithful Navigator: Dr. Steven M Wyer FDD PGK PFN

steven.m.wyer@gmail.com

Faithful Captain: Vacant

Faithful Admiral: Jim Larkin PFN

Faithful Pilot: Tom Nate

Faithful Comptroller: Wayne Brewer PGK PFN

Faithful Purser: Steve McElroy

Faithful Scribe: Charlie Culkin FDD PGK PFN

Faithful Outer Sentinel: Lou Mikos

Faithful Inner Sentinel: Gary Garvin

3 Year Trustee: Dennis Mikus

2 Year Trustee: Steve Malecki

1 Year Trustee: Jerry Hayes

Color Corps Commander: Dr. Steven Wyer FDD PGK PFN