

Knights of Columbus
Pope John XXIII Assembly #1536



April 2020

Worthy Sir Knights of Pope John XXIII Assembly #1536,

He is Risen! Alleluia! This is the greatest celebration for Catholics and all Christians around the world! For by His death and resurrection we have been set free and granted eternal life! Praise be to God!

As I write this, the entire world is fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. Here in our small corner of the world we have been asked to sit tight in our homes, not socialize with others, keep a respectful distance when we go to the store for those things we need, and generally try to get through this without getting infected (or infecting others). These are indeed interesting times.

Because of this, the Supreme Council has **mandated** that all meetings be held virtually. The officers and I did this for the officer meeting; we will do this as a group for our regular meeting. For those that do not have a home computer, tablet or cell phone, there will be a call-in number. The instructions for this will be sent separately and WILL NOT be posted on the web. (This is one of the ways we can try to make sure it is only us in the virtual meeting.)

Supreme has also asked us to make sure no Knight gets left behind. To that end, I asked Chris Scanlan to activate the Rosary Chain and make calls to check on our Sir Knights. While most are reporting our Sir Knights are OK, we did recently find out two of our Sir Knights passed away. It is with the heaviest of hearts that I announce to you passing of two Sir Knights: **James P. Hughes, Jr., PFN** and **Orville J. Roberts**. James Hughes was Navigator of the assembly from 1999-2000. Orville was the oldest member of our assembly, passing away peacefully at age 99. You can find both their obituaries at the L. J. Griffin Funeral Home website, <https://www.griffinfuneralhome.com/obituary>. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in Peace. Amen. †*

Notice was given in March that our Worthy Master Emeritus Frank Pawelak and our Worthy District Marshal George Roumaya will be the committee that will be taking nominations for Assembly offices as well as running the Assembly election.

Notice was also given that we will be taking nominations for Assembly offices at the following remaining General Assembly meetings: Sunday, April 19, 2020, 4:00pm; and, Sunday, May 17, 2020, 4:00pm. The election will be held at the May 17, 2020, 4:00pm General Assembly meeting after nominations are closed.

Finally, notice is hereby given that because we are in extraordinary times, nominations can be given to Frank or George at any time via email or phone (Frank: fpmasterkc@aol.com or 734.476.9112; George: george3345@comcast.net or 734.306.0269. Note that if you nominate someone other than yourself, that person must still accept the nomination.

As mentioned above, the election process has started. We will take nominations up until the May General Assembly meeting, with elections at the close of nominations in May. Once again, Master Emeritus Frank Pawelak and District Master George Roumaya will be the election committee. Please consider running for one of the offices. It is with the help of many people that our assembly is strong and does great work in the community. Currently, the following people have accepted nominations for the office noted:

- Navigator – Gene Suchyta
- Pilot – Joe Bradley
- Admiral – Chris Scanlan
- Scribe – Ed Hurst, Jr.
- Comptroller – Greg Rapelje
- Inner Sentinel – Josh Earles

Many activities have been cancelled, including the Adopt-A-Highway trash collection scheduled for April 18, 2020. (The next one will be in July.) This includes the annual State Convention on Mackinaw Island. At this point, the only

activities of which I am aware have NOT been cancelled (yet) is our Charity Poker (May 14-17) and the Living Rosary in Lansing (May 30). Both of these are at least a month away, so stay tuned and visit our web site regularly, as I will try to keep it updated with information as I am made aware. I will also make every effort to get the word out to people if we have some activities rescheduled, like the Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Steak Lunch.

Regarding the Charity Poker Nights at Krazy Kopz (Vision Lanes) , 38250 Ford Rd, Westland, MI, we are still taking volunteers for Thursday through Sunday, May 14, 15, 16 and 17. We already have people that have signed up for more than half the slots, which our chairman, SK Joe Bradley, appreciates. We are currently taking a “wait and see” approach to see if this event will still take place. With that in mind, I understand that even if we do get an “all clear,” some people may feel uncomfortable being in that situation so shortly after receiving the “all clear.” I will be working with our chairman, Joe Bradley, to come up with a plan to make sure that we are in compliance with whatever direction we get from the state as well as making sure we can keep our assembly members safe. For more information, you can visit the **News** page on our website (<http://kofc1536assembly.org/news.html>). Alternately, you can email, call or text Joe at jbradleyhome@comcast.net or 734.673.0004.

We have only a few people that have not paid their 2020 dues. Working with our Comptroller, Greg Rapelje, and our Admiral, Chris Scanlan, we have decided to not take any action on suspension until after the COVID-19 emergency is over. We feel this is the best avenue of action given the situation in which we find ourselves.

The District Biennial meeting was held online on April 4, 2020. The quick summary is that all of the resolutions regarding the uniform passed, all of the resolutions regarding updates to the Form 4 passed, and the resolution for better feedback from Supreme was withdrawn by the two assemblies that submitted it. (There was some feeling that as worded, it would have been out of order, so we will need to reconsider it.) Additionally, nominations for District Master were Mark Brezenski (the current District Master), Travis Baker (DD, PGK, PFN) and Gene Suchyta (me). Finally, a request was made to help support Vets Returning Home, one of the many great charities that help veterans. (This is something we may talk about at the General Assembly meeting.)

PFN Jim Inch is leading the planning of the 50th Anniversary of the Assembly Celebration we plan to have on Saturday, August 1, 2020. Jim has been doing preliminary work on it for about 18 months, and we are only about six months away from the event. We know we will be at St. John Neumann, 44800 Warren Ave, Canton, MI, and we will start with 4:30pm Mass. We expect to have dinner, some speeches (can't avoid it) and some music and dancing. We need to pull together to make it happen. If you are interested in helping, please contact him at jiminch66@gmail.com. And, yes, I am hopeful this will still occur.

Regarding the prayer list, we currently have over 150 intentions, which is a lot. Some are 2½ years old. While I am not saying these people don't need prayers, even our churches keep intentions for only 3 or 4 weeks. As such, I am planning some changes to the web site to help manage this. Specifically, intentions will be on the site for 13 weeks and then will automatically be concluded. As with churches, the intention can be extended, and there will be a way for a member to do that online. (I have implemented this with my Council and everyone seems satisfied with it.)

Finally, a reminder that our General Assembly meeting will be online on April 19, 2020 at 4:00pm. Please see the additional information for how to attend.

Vivat Jesus!

Eugene Suchyta, Faithful Navigator
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