

Knights of Columbus  
Pope John XXIII Assembly #1536

May 2020



Worthy Sir Knights of Pope John XXIII Assembly #1536,

I hope this note finds all of the members of our assembly healthy and safe. As I write this, I read that the “stay at home” order has been extended through the end of the month. This means our churches will be closed this month, as well. I pray that all of you have found ways to stay close to our faith. The Archdiocese of Detroit, as well as EWTN, has been streaming and televising masses since this started. While not the same as attending mass, it is better than no mass at all. You can find additional information for masses that are available via streaming at the Archdiocese of Detroit website, <http://aod.org>.

Our April 19, 2020 General Assembly meeting was, for the first time and in keeping with the guidance provided by Supreme, online. I felt it was successful. We had, I believe, 34 people participate. We had a mix of members that regularly attend our meetings as well as those that have not attended in quite some time. Some members I met for the very first time! It was very gratifying to see so many people and have their participation.

Our officer meeting was online this past Tuesday (our second online officer meeting) and I felt that also went well. I appreciate all those that are able to join and participate.

Because of the extension of the Governor’s orders, and because I feel there is no need to put our council members at risk, our May 17, 2020, General Assembly meeting will also be online. Details on how to participate are included in either the email that contained this Navigator News or in the envelope that you received. Also, as previously announced, the June General Assembly meeting will be moved to Tuesday, June 2, 2020, at 7:00pm, to allow members to spend Father’s Day with their families. The officers will make a decision on Sunday, May 31 regarding how this meeting will occur: online or face-to-face. The result will be emailed to members and posted on the website. Note that there is a phone number for these meetings. If you feel uncomfortable with the GoToMeeting technology, you can just call in!

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. 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](mailto:fpmasterkc@aol.com) or 734.476.9112; George: [george3345@comcast.net](mailto:george3345@comcast.net) or 734.306.0269. Note that if you nominate someone other than yourself, that person must still accept the nomination.)

Notice was also given that we will be taking nominations for Assembly offices at the following remaining General Assembly meeting: 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.

Notice is hereby given that we will make a determination, and vote if necessary, to fulfill the obligation for the Chalice Fund that is found in Special Policy 3.

Notice is given that, as previously announced, the June General Membership meeting will be on Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 7:00pm. A decision regarding the meeting style (online or face-to-face) will be emailed to members and posted on the assembly website at <http://kofc1536assembly.org>.

The May meeting is important because we will be electing officers and we will also be determining if a vote is needed to fund the Chalice Fund. This will be the first time any voting will be done that is not face-to-face. In order to make it a relatively easy and painless process (if such a thing exists online), I wrote voting software that is now on our website. I’ll cover how it works, below, as I have made a few other additions to the website...

Our website is <http://kofc1536assembly.org>. Over the last few weeks I have done quite a bit of work on the website, most of which is transparent to the users but is a big deal on the back end. One of the additions is a **Members Only** section (<http://kofc1536assembly.org/member.html>) which is, as you might have guessed, for assembly members only. I have put a lot of security into this so as to reduce the risk of outsiders getting in to that portion of the website. To get in, type in your last name and your KofC Membership Number. A validation will occur and, if successful, you will be

prompted with another screen that will send you an email with a code. Once you get the email, put the code in the box and click the button. At that point, if successful, you will be presented with a small menu that will allow you to:

- a) Enter a prayer request;
- b) Change your preferences; and,
- c) Vote.

In the Preferences, you can provide your cell phone provider (let me know if it isn't listed and I will add it), and also specify if you would rather get a text as opposed to an email. You can also indicate if you want to be in the Rosary Chain (currently, only about half the members of the assembly are in the Rosary Chain). And, yes, you can vote.

Note that currently there is nothing on which to vote. Even so, I encourage you to check this portion of the website out BEFORE the meeting, especially if you plan to participate. I have tried to make this as easy to use as possible. Even so, I may have missed something, and would like to address it before the meeting as quickly as I can.

This is the current slate of candidates:

- Navigator – Gene Suchyta
- Captain – John Russell
- Pilot – Joe Bradley
- Comptroller – Greg Rapelje
- Scribe – Ed Hurst, Jr.
- Purser – Lou Brotchner
- Inner Sentinel (2) – Josh Earles, Glenn Rapelje and Patrick Lowry
- Outer Sentinel (2) – Bob Rugenski
- Admiral – Chris Scanlan
- 3-Year Trustee – Ed Shaheen and Kevin Baumler

One of the other changes I made to the web site is on the Prayer list (<http://kofc1536assembly.org/prayer.html>). Unless it is a special intention, any item put on the prayer list will conclude in 13 weeks. For those items that are in the **Ailing and Distressed** area, any item that will conclude in 30 days or less will have an option to extend and additional 13 weeks. Since this is relatively new, no prayer request will expire before July 21 (about 10 weeks away) and I have temporarily removed the 30-day limit so all the prayer requests we currently have are available for extension. We have over 150 intentions, which is a lot by any standard!

Many of our council activities have been cancelled. Our Charity Poker fundraiser for this month has been cancelled (if you planned to help, chairman Joe Bradley should have sent you a notice). I believe the Plymouth Memorial Day Parade will be cancelled, given the current emergency orders from the state. Also, we have decided to postpone the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration from August 1<sup>st</sup> to a date to be determined. I believe the next activity we have planned is the MDOT Adopt-A-Highway currently set for Saturday, July 18, 2020, at 9:00am (optional breakfast at 8:00am at the Red Olive at the NE corner of Plymouth and Farmington roads).

As part of Supreme's **No Knight Left Behind** program, I have asked for some members of the assembly to help me make phone calls to check in on Sir Knights and make sure they are OK. While I know councils are doing this, I am not sure if all the councils in our area are participating. We will generally be contacting those that are not on the Rosary Chain (we recently called them) as well as those that do not regularly participate in the assembly meetings. I'm sure those that receive a call will be most appreciative.

Again, a reminder that our General Assembly meeting will be online on May 17, 2020 at 4:00pm. Please see the additional information for how to attend.

Vivat Jesus!

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