

Knights of Columbus
Pope John XXIII Assembly #1536



October 2020

Worthy Sir Knights of Pope John XXIII Assembly #1536,

Things are certainly getting interesting in the State of Michigan... The Governor, the legislature and the Michigan Supreme Court are at odds, making it more difficult to figure out what is right and what is wrong... Election season is upon us, and we are being bombarded with political adds from all sides. But, on the bright side, our churches are slowly filling back up. While things are not "back to normal" (whatever that means these days), there appear to be some signs that things are loosening up. Remember, God is still with us, and the Holy Spirit will help us get through all of this if we are open to Him.

With elections just around the corner, we as Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Sir Knights should be reminding people of the importance of voting. That said, please encourage people to learn about the issues and vote from a position of knowledge, not ignorance. The Knights of Columbus is **not** a political party, nor does the Knights of Columbus support or endorse candidates. I do, however, feel that learning about the issues and thinking through these is part of your civic duty to vote.

A quick reminder...

Notice is hereby given that the October General Membership meeting will be on the SECOND Sunday of the month, October 11, 2020, at the usual time of 4:00pm.

This next meeting will be both live and on zoom.us (yes, this is a change from gotomeeting.com). The last set of orders from the governor has made it possible for us (and the Pope John Ladies) to meet face-to-face. While there are still limits, based on the size of the rooms at the hall I feel we can handle pretty much anyone that decides to come. Even so, I will still be running a virtual meeting at the same time for those that still feel uncomfortable coming to a group event such as this. If you plan to come to the face-to-face meeting, please remember to bring and wear a face mask!

The following items of note occurred at our last general assembly meeting:

- Chris Scanlan was named Sir Knight of the Month. Chris was very active this past month helping to recruit new members to our assembly. *Congratulations, Chris!*
- We voted on the remaining Third Degree brothers that wanted to join our assembly (more on that below).

We had planned on installing officers before the last meeting. Events conspired against us, however, as the Mass of Thanksgiving at the Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit kept some of our Color Corps busy before the meeting (including the District Master and me). Additionally, the District Master had a last-minute issue arise that would have kept him from attending. The installation was moved to Wednesday, September 23, and was done online. About half the officers were available to make this last-minute change.

On Saturday, September 26, the District Master held our first ever online exemplification. A total of 98 new Sir Knights were exemplified, with 31 new Sir Knights joining our assembly. This is the largest Michigan District One (and Assembly 1536) exemplification class in a long time. I have sent a couple of communications out on this, so please be sure to welcome the new Sir Knights, and Ladies, when the opportunity arises (especially if you see them at a meeting).

Note that all these new Sir Knights need to be knighted, and I am working with the council Grand Knights to schedule these. Many of the them will be prior to a regularly scheduled council meeting, though we will be doing one at the end of a Sunday Mass. The councils with brothers in need of knighting are:

St. Paul (St. John XXIII Parish)

Fr. Victor J. Renaud

Dr. Thomas A. Dooley

George F. Monaghan

Immaculate Conception

St. John Neumann

Feel free to contact me if you would like more information on when these will occur.

The next Michigan District One exemplification will be either late November or early December this year. Additionally, other Districts in both the Hennepin Province as well as around the country are doing exemplifications online. This creates a lot more opportunities for Third Degree brothers to become Fourth Degree Sir Knights. If you know of anyone

that is interested, please feel free to pass on my contact information. (It is at the bottom of this letter, in the emails I send as well as online at our website.)

Our Color Corps has been very active. In the past month we have participated in four funerals, a Patriotic Rosary, a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit, and a Blue Mass and a Living Rosary at St. Fabian. From March through July, we didn't have any assignments (other than a couple of very special events for which I could only have one or two people), so this is great to see. If you know of any group that would like to have us participate in an event, please have them contact our Commander, Dennis Lipski, at dmlipski@gmail.com.



Patriotic Rosary, St. John Neumann



Mass of Thanksgiving, Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit



Adopt-A-Highway Trash Pickup

On October 3rd we completed our last MDOT Adopt-A-Highway trash pickup on Plymouth Rd. between Farmington and Middle Belt roads. Eight Sir Knights picked up a total of fourteen bags of trash. This completes our commitment for the year. I anticipate we will be doing this again next year on the same stretch of road. Much thanks to the Sir Knights that were able to make the event on October 3rd, as well as this past July, a success!

The District Fall Harvest Meeting (to which all Sir Knights are invited) planned for the Saturday in November will be online. This also means the Desert Angels Packing Party, held usually held concurrently with the meeting, will not take place. The officers discussed how we want to proceed given this state of affairs, and we will put forth our proposal at the meeting on Sunday, October 11.

Our Worthy Master Emeritus, Frank Pawelak, has told us that all the Elks events scheduled through the end of the year, including the Elks Steak Luncheon and the Christmas Wrapping, have been cancelled. Further, the Detroit VA Hospital is not allowing any outside visitors to bring in things like coffee and donuts. So, in short, all these activities in which we would normally participate are on hold.

Our Charity Poker Fundraiser scheduled for September 24 through September 27 did not occur. With the new executive orders taking effect on October 9, there is an opportunity for the games to restart. Our Charity Poker chairperson, Joe Bradley, is monitoring this situation. While we really don't know how the poker rooms could start up even under the revised rules, someone might figure it out and we will try to take advantage of that.

Also, Joe is interested in having someone learn how to be a chairperson for a Charity Poker week-end. There is some mentoring that will need to occur, and Joe is not completely stepping out. He does, however, want to make sure someone else knows what to do so that he can go out of town occasionally. If you are interested, please contact Joe at csmjb@protonmail.com or 734.673.0004.

Finally, as mentioned above, our next meeting will be on Sunday, October 11th, both in person at Renaud Hall as well as online, at 4:00pm. The Pope John Ladies will be meeting as well. We will NOT, however, be doing dinner.

Thanks, and I look forward to seeing you Sunday, October 11th!

Vivat Jesus!

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