



District Master's Message

Worthy Sir Knights and Brothers,

Vivat Jesus!

It seems hard to believe that Lent has begun and Easter is only six weeks away. The Honor Guards will once again be very busy. It is a good opportunity for the "Visible Arm" of the Order to assist our councils by being just that, Visible. The councils will be doing their membership Blitz around this time period. If we participate at our parish functions, it gives incentive, in some cases, for me to join our Order.

Continuing on from last month concerning the new Drill Manual, I would like to advise that we will once again carry swords with the blade edge against the shoulder. It is my preference as it is easier to carry for extended periods of time.

Supreme has also issued color code standards to the manufacturers of our regalia, that is, they have given them standard industry codes so all colors of capes and plumes are the same. There have been a number of discrepancies in the past with dye lots being off. This does not make us look very organized. All future regalia will be identical in color. I personally can attest to this problem when I received my gold cape and chapeau. There was a great variation between the two.

Honor Guards for a deceased member or immediate family member participate only at the family's request. At funerals, we do not participate in the mass. We are an Honor Guard for the deceased and family members as they enter and depart the church. Lines are formed from the church entrance to the hearse. No other participation at the mass is sanctioned. The Honor Guard sits in the rear of the church and attends mass. Period.

I have received the material for the revised Fourth Degree Exemplification ceremony and I am in the process of distributing it to the Fourth Degree Team members. The first opportunity for this revision to be seen will be at the upcoming small exemplification on June 27, in Wilmington. The team will be practicing between now and then as we all have to be recertified by the Vice Supreme Master prior to holding an exemplification.

Again, I am asking the Officers of the Assemblies to recognize a member for the honor of Sir Knight of the Month. I am truly disappointed that I have not received anything from anyone since the middle of January. There are many members out there that deserve recognition. Why can't you write a few paragraphs on their merits? Please, let me hear from you.

Some of you will be attending the State Convention in New Bern in May. Please bring your regalia and participate in the Honor Guard at mass. We always have an open invitation from the State Deputy to bring our regalia. Let's turn out in force to show our support for the State Chaplain, Padre Leon and all clergy who will offer our convention mass.

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Master's Message continues....

On another note I had an opportunity to ask one of my parish priests about gifts for the newly ordained priests. Father's response was enlightening so I'm passing it on. Father suggested a set of Holy Oils, or a case for his chalice if it did not come with one. Also, Father suggested a mass kit, which every priest can use. The last one really surprised me. A GPS. When Father is assigned to a parish, he most likely will not know the area. The GPS could save him a great deal of time getting around in his new location. Just some thoughts with ordination time approaching.

As always, thank you all for everything you do as Knights of Columbus and members of the Fourth Degree. A special thanks to the Faithful Navigators and Faithful Comptrollers for completing their Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Reports. The North Carolina District has the honor of 100% submissions. Is that GREAT or what! Thank you!

God bless you all,

Bob

SK Robert J. "Bob" Grabasky, PSD
District Master



Fourth Degree Exemplifications



Mark Yours Calendars now!

June 27 2009 - Wilmington - St. Mark's Catholic Church

October 24 2009 - Durham - Sheraton Imperial Hotel

Vice Supreme Master's Message



March 2009

Sir Knights all,

We are starting the Spring Season, now that the winter is basically over; let's do our best to finish the Fraternal Year in the most successful manner possible. If you still are delinquent in your Fraternal Survey Report, please get it in NOW, late is better than never.

We are looking forward to more Exemplifications in the upcoming months, so I encourage every Assembly in the District to get out and invite your Brother Knights to join the Fourth Degree and show their patriotic colors. We have been very successful, so far this year in our membership gain. I just attended a very successful Exemplification in Columbia, South Carolina where 109 new Sir Knights were honored in the Fourth Degree. Three of the new S.C. Sir Knights are clergy. I encourage every Assembly to invite their Clergy to join our great Order.

I would also like to remind each Assembly in the DeSoto Province, that you need to be thinking about your new Officers for the 2009/2010 Fraternal Year. Don't wait until the final minute to try to come up with a slate of Officers for your election. Remember the Fraternal year begins July 1, 2009, at that time your New Officers will take over. BE READY.

As many of you already know, there is a New Fourth Degree, which will be used in ALL Exemplifications beginning no later that July 1, 2009. All Fourth Degree Exemplification Teams must be certified by the Vice Supreme Master before they can perform the new Degree. Be sure you are ready.

I know this is a repeat, but be sure you have made your Incarnation Dome Donation, to the Supreme Office, before June 1, 2009. Many Assemblies are still in arrears and we do not want to let an important item such as this be ignored by Any Assembly. Your District Masters have notified each Assembly who had not met their obligation. I want to thank those Assemblies who have met their 100% goal.

I realize this is a little short, but due to an emergency trip to the Midwest, I have been out of service for a week, and I wait until the end of the month to write my letter.

If I can be of any service to any Assembly or District, please advise. I am willing to assist all.



Fraternally,

Bob

SK Robert J. "Bob" Singer, PSD, FDM
Vice Supreme Master
DeSoto Province





Sir Knight of the Month

*The following nomination has been accepted for the March 2009 Sir Knight of the Month. My congratulations to both the Sir Knight and the Assembly for recognizing him for all that he does.
Bob Grabasky, DM*

At this time I would like to submit a Sir Knight of the Month for March. This most deserving Sir Knight has taken on more responsibilities in the organization and continues to do an outstanding job. He has served through the ranks as an officer in his council and then became the Grand Knight for two years and received Star Council in both terms. At the end of his term as Grand Knight, the State Deputy recognizing his devotion of service to the Knights of Columbus, asked him to serve as a District Deputy for District 13.

At the Assembly level, this Sir Knight continues to assist the Assembly in all of our functions. In every event that the assembly is involved, you will find this Sir Knight taking the lead and making sure that everything is in order.

As a past Faithful Navigator, current Faithful Comptroller and recently appointed Commander of the Color Corps for Assembly 2208, he deserves the honors he has achieved. It gives me great pleasure to recommend on behalf of Msgr. Lawrence Newman Assembly 2208, to nominate,

Sir Knight Peter J. Devlin, PFN

for the honor of Sir Knight of the Month for March 2009.

Vivat Jesus!
Sir Knight Zoilo T. Tarnate, FN
Msgr. Lawrence Newman Assembly 2208
Charlotte, NC



Congratulations!

