



Worthy Sir Knights and Brothers All,  
Vivat Jesus!

## District Master's Report

“Happy Summer!” As we embark on the “vacation” season, please be safe in your travels. Many of us go on outings and drive when the sun is in our eyes and/or are tired after a day of fun with the family. If you feel listless while behind the wheel, pull over and rest or get another member of the family to share the driving. Don't put yourself and others in a dangerous situation. If traveling and you are looking for a mass to attend, you can go to [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) or call **1-800-MASSTIMES (1-800-627-3846)** to find a catholic church and mass times anywhere. These might be good things to put into your cell phone for easy reference when you are on the road.

- **October 15th, 2011 Exemplification** – It is now official, there will be a Fourth Degree Exemplification held on 10/15/2011 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Raleigh-Durham/Research Triangle, 201 Harrison Oaks Blvd., Cary, NC 27513. Phone number 919 677 1840. Room rate is \$99.00 plus tax. As you may be aware, Embassy Suites Hotel provides free breakfast for all guests. Information concerning the Ladies Luncheon and Banquet costs are presented elsewhere in this newsletter. Candidates may also be interested in a special offer given by J. C. Penney in Winston-Salem at Hanes Mall on a complete tux new outfit, (Tux, shirt, cummerbund, tie and shoes), for \$125.00. Only problem, the shirt is a winged collar which can not be worn for the exemplification. You have to identify yourself as a member of the Knights of Columbus.
- **September 24 & 25, 2011 Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte.** All Sir Knights appearing in their regalia will participate. Please put these dates on your calendar. Also see the included letter from SK Ron Harbert, PFN, outlining the events where Fourth Degree Knights in regalia are needed. Please note that the Most Reverend Michael Burbidge, Bishop of the Raleigh Diocese, will be the homilist for the Saturday morning Holy Hour.
- **Wounded Warrior** - Donations can be sent to the District Chairman, Vice Supreme Master, SK Robert J. Singer, FDM, PSD, at any time. The checks should be made payable to MOPH, (Military Order of the Purple Heart) and be sure to note on the check that the donation is for the Wounded Warrior Vacation Fund. The VSM's address is 2506 Canal Drive, Wilson, NC 27896-1326.
- **Report of Assembly Officers Chosen for the Term** - If you have not yet submitted your report, please do so immediately. Original goes to Supreme with copies to the Vice Supreme Master and the Master. If you submitted electronically, the VSM and I both still need a copy. This is also true if adjustments are made during the year.

I hope you all have a safe and fun filled summer. God bless you all for all that you do.

Fraternally,

*Bob Grabasky*

Robert J. “Bob” Grabasky, FDM, District Master



**All Faithful Navigators:  
June 30, 2011**

Sir Knights the seventh annual **Eucharistic Congress of the Diocese of Charlotte** will be held Sept. 23 & 24, 2011, at the Charlotte Convention Center. More information is available at the congress website [www.goucharist.com](http://www.goucharist.com). Your support and participation is needed as in the past Eucharistic Congresses.

This year the Most Reverend Michael Burbidge, Bishop of the Diocese of Raleigh, will be the homilist for the Sept. 24, 9:45 AM Holy Hour. Therefore, Sir Knights from the Diocese of Raleigh are cordially invited to participate.

Participation is needed specifically as follows:

- The Eucharistic procession thru the streets of Charlotte has been our most visible external evidence of support. (Room 205 in the convention center is provided for changing into regalia). Be there by 8:30 AM, Saturday, Sept 24 and then proceed to St. Peters church for forming of the procession which starts at 9:00 AM.
- Honor Guards are needed at the Eucharistic Adoration chapel in the convention center from approximately 10:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Depending on the number of Sir Knights available, we will do 15 minute shifts as in the past.
- An Honor Guard is needed to escort the Eucharist to the three different children's tracks from 12:25 PM until 2:30 PM. Four to six Sir Knights in regalia are required.
- A minimum of 24 Sir Knights will be needed as escorts for the priests for the distribution of the Eucharist during the Holy Mass but everyone in regalia will participate in the Honor Guard at both the beginning and end of mass, which starts at 4:30 PM. Honor Guard participants need to be ready at 4:00 PM.

Please pass this on to your Color Corps Commanders as they will help co-ordinate the above activities. Please contact me with the number of men we can expect to assist with the planning.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and participation.

Liaison for the Knights of Columbus of the Diocesan planning committee  
SK Ron Harbert, PFN  
[harbert@charter.net](mailto:harbert@charter.net)  
PH 704-735-1738  
Msgr. Eugene Livelsberger Assembly 1713



## Vice Supreme Masters Message

My Brother Sir Knights.

June was a good month for the DeSoto Province. We held two (2) Exemplifications during June; One in Marietta, Georgia and the other in Navarre, Florida. I was able to attend both of these exemplifications and I wish to thank the Georgia and Florida Districts for showing me such a cordial welcome.

As you know, June 30 is the cutoff for this fraternal year for both Membership and Exemplifications. Without having the Official Numbers, it appears that the DeSoto Province will fall short of our goals, for the first time in my four years as VSM. Let's get plans made to make the 2011-2012 Fraternal Year more fruitful. I would ask that Every Assembly make personal contact with the Councils which make up the Assembly and invite all Non-Fourth Degree Members to join our ranks in the Patriotic Degree. If at first you get a "NO" answer, don't give up. Try again, perhaps giving the prospective candidate more information about the Fourth Degree. It's the old saying "Try, Try Again".

**WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAM:** As I explained previously, the funds for the Wounded Warrior Program was depleted last Christmas when we sent 363 Wounded Warriors home for the Christmas Holiday. I am happy to tell you that donations are coming in at a good pace, already this year. I want to thank the following Councils and Assemblies for making a donation already: Assemblies: 1074 Aiken, SC, Assy 2531, Gastonia, NC, Assy 1713, Hickory, NC, Assy 783, Fayetteville, NC, Assy 780, Charlotte, NC, Assy 2538 Roanoke Rapids, NC, Assy 2228, Charlotte, NC, Assy 2217, Alpharetta, GA. The Councils who have raised funds for this program are: Council 6650, Cary, NC, Council 9847, Fayetteville, NC. Our total income since January 1, 2011 amounts to \$8,911.32. My personal thanks to all who have donated and I ask those who have not yet donated to please consider doing so before November, 2011. To try to guess how many Warriors we will send home this year is impossible. It seems we read about casualties in the news nearly every day. My goal for 2011 is \$75,000. In 2010 the Knights of Columbus collected \$66,715.38 for the Wounded Warriors so you can see my goal is very reasonable. I have found that the best way to raise funds is to ask your Priest for permission to speak on this program, at the end of Mass on one weekend. Have manpower at the Church Exits to collect the donations. If you need information to talk to your Priest, please contact me, I will be glad to assist you.

I am looking forward on traveling to Denver, Co. for the Supreme Convention, in August. We will also hold our Annual Fourth Degree Vice Supreme Masters meeting, following the Convention. I will be forwarding any news coming out of this meeting, to all District Masters.

I would like to ask ALL District Masters to forward my Newsletter to EVERY ASSEMBLY in your District, then for EACH ASSEMBLY to forward it to their members. Keeping members advised, will keep them active.

If I can be of any assistance to anyone at any time, do not fail to contact me. I am here to help.



Fraternally,  
SK Robert J. "Bob" Singer, PSD, FDM,  
Vice Supreme Master, DeSoto Province,  
2506 Canal Drive; Wilson, NC 27896;  
(252) 237-8007, [rjaskofc@nc.rr.com](mailto:rjaskofc@nc.rr.com)



## Brother Knight Exemplified into the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree

Brother Monroe “Jack” McLacklan was inducted into the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree during an Exemplification which took place at the Croatan (Village) Convalescent Home on Old Cherry Point Road, New Bern, NC . Now Sir Knight Jack has lived at the home for the last 11 years. His overwhelming desire to become a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knight was expressed to The Assembly’s Faithful Navigator, Jim Whetzel. After notifying the District Master, who gave his approval to proceed with the planning and appointed the State Secretary to conduct the ceremony, Jim made the final arrangements for the exemplification. At 2PM on Tuesday, 7 June 2011 Jack became a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knight in the Fr. Kenneth I. Parker Assembly # 1820. As can be seen in the picture, Jack could not be more proud or happier about the ceremony. The beliefs he has for his GOD and the Knights of Columbus are truly inspiring. Refreshments along with cake and pie were served following the exemplification. I might add that the Staff at the Home were very receptive and accommodating to Jacks’ wishes and also made the event very special for him and the Knights that participated.

**Pictured Front Center** - SK Monroe “Jack” McLacklan

**Pictured from left to right** - SK Greg Ciesielski - State Secretary, SK Danny Gennantonio, PFN – Faithful Pilot, SK Rich Tomasik – Faithful Captain, SK Lud Hartung, SK Kevin Blust, SK Jim Whetzel – Faithful Navigator

SK Rich Tomasik, Faithful Captain



The following was written by Father Ed Lamp, Chaplain, National Catholic Daughters of the Americas on June 26, 2011 and reprinted with permission. It applies to KofC members also.

**Letting Go of the excuses we make as KofC:**

In tomorrow's Gospel story, we see a scribe who's very excited about Jesus. Do you know the feeling? We get charged up while hearing a parish mission priest or a conference speaker or a stirring homily. But how long does that feeling last?

If you're still experiencing the thrill of growing spiritually, and if it's still producing good fruits, congratulate yourself. God is very pleased with you. He's admiring you, appreciating the work you're doing for his kingdom, and pointing you out to the angels and saints in heaven, saying, "Look at what my beloved child is doing!"

But –. Ahhh yes, the but. We sit on our "buts" far too often. Jesus is continually inviting us to produce more good fruits. Too many Christians do way too little for the kingdom of God, allowing evil to grow more of its own bitter fruits. But we have lots of but's, lots of excuses for why we're not doing more for the Lord and his Church.

Was Jesus complaining when he said he had no place to rest his head? I think not. He was no whiner. Listen closely: "The birds have nests, the foxes have lairs, Peter has a house where his mother-in-law cooks his favorite foods, and you have a spacious home in the suburbs, and I'm not always welcome there." "BUT Jesus, when did you come to me and I did not feed you or shelter you or clothe you or give you a drink?"

One of his disciples said, "I want to go wherever you go, Lord, and do whatever you ask of me, BUT first let me bury my father." The reply Jesus gave him seems to be unsympathetic about the man's sorrow and loss. Was he really telling him to ignore his family and skip the grieving process? I think not. Jesus knows we can do important ministry in the family gatherings of funerals. He also knows when we're making excuses to avoid being sincere and whole-hearted about a life of holiness.

Following Jesus as a Knight, is never convenient. What's on your list of tasks that you're hoping God will NOT ask you to do? What are your but's? When you hear about a need [in your Council] that's going unmet and you could do something about it (with God's help, of course), do you say, "Sure, I'd do that if only –, but first –, later when –"?

You've heard the question: "If God is real, why is there so much evil in the world?" The answer is: It's not God's fault. We are neglecting to produce the good fruit that defeats those evils.

"Let the dead bury their dead" is God's way of letting go of those who are not willing to join him in his work. He surrenders us to our deadness, but if we surrender to him, we become truly and excitedly alive as he works through us in mighty and amazing ways!



**“At the end of our life, we shall all be judged by charity.”  
St. John of the Cross**



# Sir Knight of the Month



*Fr. Kenneth I. Parker Assembly, No. 1820  
P.O. Box 13903  
New Bern, North Carolina 28561-3903*

*In recognition of his many outstanding accomplishments and contributions,*

## ***Sir Knight Clark French, PGK - PFN***

*is enthusiastically recognized as the Fr. Kenneth I. Parker Assembly Sir Knight of the Month. Sir Knight French is a Past Grand Knight, Past Faithful Navigator and is currently serving as an Officer, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Trustee, in the Assembly. He is also a member of the Assembly's Color Corps. Clark is actively involved in the church being an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharistic and a Lector. He is a staunch supporter of St. Paul Catholic School. His expertise in appliance repair has benefitted the Knights of Columbus in savings on both parts and maintenance costs.*

*His dedication to the Order, his Assembly, and his fellow Knights, along with his commitment to Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism make Sir Knight Clark French truly deserving of this award.*

*SK James Whetzel, Faithful Navigator  
Fr. Kenneth I. Parker Assembly No. 1820  
New Bern, NC*

*Submitted by Richard Tomasik Faithful Captain*

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*Senator Albert J. Ellis Assembly # 1541  
Sir Knight of the Month*

*In recognition of his many outstanding accomplishments,*

## ***Sir Knight Fred R. Smith***

*is enthusiastically awarded Senator Albert J Ellis Assembly's Sir Knight of the Month for the month of December 2010. Sir Knight Fred has served and continues to serve his Parish, Priest, and Faith through his leadership in the Eucharistic Adoration Program. Dedicating his time and talents to this blessed effort, he has supported Perpetual Adoration at various time periods throughout the day. Sir Knight Fred's devotion exemplifies those Knightly qualities where support and commitment to our Lord are not only for single-day Council and Assembly events, but are an everyday part of our lives.*

*His dedication to the Order, his Assembly, and his fellow Knights, along with his commitment to Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism, make Sir Knight Fred R. Smith truly deserving of this award.*

*Kenneth S. Fischler  
Faithful Navigator, Assembly #1541*




It Is Time To Start Raising Money To Send Our Wounded Warriors Home For Christmas




On Sat. June 11th, the Knights of Columbus Fr. Francis Connolly Assembly 3253 provided a color guard for Boy Scout Troop 244 of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro, N.C. during the Scouts annual commemoration of Flag Day with a retirement ceremony, at which the boys reverently destroyed by fire, American flags that are no longer serviceable for public display.

Photo courtesy of John Russell

# The Caboose - District Secretary



Two Items to Talk About.

When each assembly finishes the **Report of Assembly Officers Chosen for the Term**, go right to the **4th Degree Directory Form** on line,

(<http://www.kofcnc.org/FORMS/NewForms/4thdegreedirectory.asp>)

fill it out and get it to me right away. So much of our communications is based on instant transmissions that it is necessary for me to have, and maintain, a current mail address, phone number and email address for the Faithful Navigator, Faithful Comptroller, Faithful Friar and Color Corps Commander. I have only received a few of these forms so please get this done **today!**

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## Brother Knight Exemplified into 4th Degree (See Page 4) notes -

It was my pleasure and honor to exemplify the Fourth Degree to SK Jack McLacklan on June 7, 2011. I would like to thank the District Master for giving me permission to do the degree, the Fr. Kenneth I. Parker Assembly for all the planning and the incredible staff at the Croatan Village Convalescent Home for making everything perfect for Jack and "my" team.

Jack is a US Army, Korean War veteran, that has numerous medical issues which does not allow him to travel far. So by doing this degree for him, we honor him and his service to our country and we added a new member to the 4th Degree.

This was the second time I have had the honor of doing this ceremony for a man that truly wants to join but cannot because of medical issues. However, please do not think we can do this for everybody. This is strictly a case by case issue and if the man can make it to a Regional, or the District, Exemplification, he should be encouraged to do so. If not, we will then look into the matter. If a Faithful Navigator finds himself in a situation like this, do what Faithful Navigator Jim Whetzel did, call the District Master for instructions. If the Master cannot be reached, call me. However, the decision is the Master's to make.

So the final word is this. We can make it happen! Do not dismiss the desire and let a Brother Knight not have the honor of becoming a Sir Knight. A couple of phone calls, some planning and it can be done.

Fraternally,

SK Greg Ciesielski,  
District Secretary



Knights of Columbus  
**F O U R T H**  
**D E G R E E**  
*Patriotic degree of the Order.*