

September 2018 Sword Of Freedom

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Knights of Columbus
FOURTH
DEGREE
Patriotic degree of the Order.

4th Degree Sword of Freedom - September 2018

Official Newsletter of Lansing Assembly #3334



From the Worthy Navigator

My Brother Sir Knights, summer has passed us by for another year and Labor Day has arrived and just as fast went. Hope all of you had a great summer with your families.

Our Assembly in conjunction with Assembly 0496, have been finalizing a fund raiser for "Warrior to Lourdes." I am sure all of you have seen this title in our Supreme Newsletter and a mentioned of it in our last newsletter. The date of this event is November 3rd, and will be open to all from 2pm to 9pm. It will be a free will offering with food and hopefully a static display of a Blackhawk and Dakota helicopter, thanks to our Army National Guard at Grand ledge. Attached to this newsletter is a copy of our flyer which we will be distributing to all our council and bringing in the assemblies from Dewitt and Charlotte.

We have other events which are coming up in September. The first one is

the Installation of State Officers, on September 8th at St Gerrard's, Mass at 4:30. Then on September 22nd, we have the Diocese of Lansing "Made for Happiness" assembly. Honor Guard will be leading the march from St. Mary's to the Breslin center. If you are unable to march we will be needing honor guard to assist with the Eucharistic ministers as the Assembly. Also, they will be needing ushers to assist with the seating and other assistance at the Breslin. If you are interested in participating you must be registered for this event. You can register at, www.MADEFORHAPPINESS.ORG. Looking forward to seeing all my brother Knights supporting this event.

Our next big event is the 76th Exemplification, Wednesday October 17, at St. Mary Queen of Angels, 4413 Morrish Rd, Swartz Creek, Michigan. Every thing begins with registration at 5:30pm. Please call me at 517-282-5948 and leave a voice mail if wish to attend. Cost for SK is \$10. For candidates the cost is \$70. I will make every attempt to visit the councils of our assembly to promote the 76th Exemplification.

In closing, just a reminder that our next meeting is September 18th at Resurrection Parish Hall. God bless all my Brother Sir Knights and their families.

Your servant and Faithful Navigator
Ken Balcer

Admirals Advice

Fellow Citizens and Brother Knights, we Catholics celebrate every September 9th as the feast of St. Peter Claver (born June 26, 1580 and died September 8, 1654). St. Peter Claver is the patron saint of slaves and ministry to African Americans.

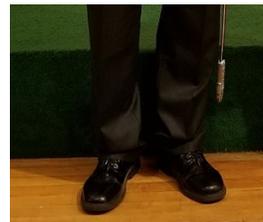
Born in Spain, Peter Claver volunteered to be sent to the Spanish colonies, where he completed his studies to be ordained a priest and joined the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits). While in what would later become the country of Columbia, he was deeply disturbed by the harsh treatment and living conditions of the slaves brought to the new world from



treatment and living conditions of the slaves brought to the new world from Africa.

St. Peter Claver would greet the arriving slave ships and tend to the needs of the slaves, both physical and spiritual. It is estimated that St. Peter Claver personally catechized and baptized 300,000 slaves.

St. Peter Claver died in 1654 and was canonized in 1888 by Pope Leo XIII



The Knights of Peter Claver (KoPC) is the largest historically African-American Catholic lay organization in the United State (and perhaps the world). The Order was founded in 1909 in Mobile, Alabama by four Josephite priests and three laypersons, and has its headquarters in New Orleans, Louisiana. Its first initiation was in 1910 of forty African Americans.

Interestingly, while other fraternal organizations such as the Elks and the Masons were inclusive of African Americans at that time, the Knights of Columbus was not, so the KoPC was formed to provide a Catholic fraternal organization for African American Catholics. Unfortunately, from what I can tell, the Knights of Columbus remained segregated until the 1960s.

The KoPC also appear to be closely based on the Knights of Columbus, in that it has four degrees, their fourth degree being known as “The Meritorious Fourth Degree”, where men are referred to as “Sir Knights” and their ladies as “Gracious Ladies”.

Their Fourth Degree also has its own honor guard, with regalia closely resembling that of our own (previous) version (black tuxedo, cape, chapeau, service baldric, sword, and white gloves). Officer positions in the KoPC Fourth Degree mirror our own, except they have an officer position of “Steward” that may be akin to our “Admiral”.

Finally, membership in the KoPC is not restricted to any particular race and ethnicity, and all practicing Catholics are welcome to join (the KoPC offers “divisions” for men and women of practically all ages (youth as young as age 7).

In conclusion, we could all take a lesson from the life of St. Peter Claver.

Here is the "Claver Prayer" from the KoPC, which I would encourage you to recite whenever you can:

*God, our heavenly Father,
You have given us life through the death and resurrection of
Your Beloved Son, Jesus Christ;
Jesus, our Saving Lord,
You came into a world darkened by a man's sin
and give it light through your teachings;
Holy Spirit, the breath of God within us,
You guide and enlighten us and give us
strength of our convictions;
Saint Peter Claver, who became an example for us,
You showed us the love of God, the light of Christ,
and the strength of the Holy Spirit;
We pray now that all we say and do, in your honor,
be a continuation of your work here on Earth.
Saint Peter Claver, Pray for Us*

2018 ASSEMBLY #5334 PATRON LIST

<i>SK Louis Axeman</i>	<i>SK Kenneth Balcer</i>	<i>SK Richard Ballor</i>	<i>SK Edward Belles</i>
<i>SK Matthew Berger</i>	<i>SK Michael Bobinski</i>	<i>SK Luke Canfora</i>	<i>SK Scott Cole</i>
<i>SK Kenneth Corrigan</i>	<i>SK Francis Courter</i>	<i>SK John Day</i>	<i>SK Michael Elias</i>
<i>SK Steven Alias</i>	<i>SK Paul Franco</i>	<i>SK Tony Fuller</i>	<i>SK Steven Forgey</i>
<i>SK Donald Gardner</i>	<i>SK Gregory Garrison</i>	<i>SK Michael Gillenkirk</i>	<i>SK Terrence Grady</i>
<i>SK Charles Graff</i>	<i>SK Joseph Hanley</i>	<i>SK Anthony Heidt</i>	<i>SK Ronald Holcombe</i>
<i>SK Michael Horvath</i>	<i>SK Thomas Fox</i>	<i>SK John Ingraham</i>	<i>SK Francis Jacobs</i>
<i>SK Dennis Jenkins</i>	<i>SK Christopher Johnston</i>	<i>SK Deacon James Kasprzak</i>	<i>SK Frank Laurich</i>
<i>SK Lance Lemon</i>	<i>SK Frank Levandowski</i>	<i>SK Vic Mankowski</i>	<i>SK Paul Mapes</i>
<i>SK John Matuszak</i>	<i>SK Gaylend Meeks</i>	<i>SK Larry Meyer</i>	<i>SK Peter Muniz</i>
<i>SK Kevin Neugent</i>	<i>SK Michael Niemela</i>	<i>SK John O'Doherty</i>	<i>SK Richard Olson</i>
<i>SK Carl Ozanich</i>	<i>SK Stephan Patoprsty</i>	<i>SK Allen Pavwoski</i>	<i>SK Donald Pielack</i>
<i>SK Rod Poland</i>	<i>SK Thomas Quasarano</i>	<i>SK Willie Reed</i>	<i>SK Daniel Reinecke</i>
<i>SK Gabriel Riley</i>	<i>SK Nicholas Scamuffo</i>	<i>SK Joseph Shank</i>	<i>SK Steven Simonson</i>
<i>SK Edward Struzinski</i>	<i>SK Ronald Styka</i>	<i>SK Randal Telesz</i>	<i>SK Robert Tetzlaff</i>
<i>SK Victor Torok</i>	<i>SK Arthur Weber</i>	<i>SK Matthew Whybra</i>	<i>SK Bruce Bobb</i>
<i>SK Doug Goulet</i>	<i>SK Eric Sudol</i>	<i>SK William Swords</i>	<i>SK Valente Villarreal</i>
<i>SK Paul Wakeman</i>			

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR PATRONS
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**



Commanders Report

In my last article I mentioned how the honor guard would be an center



in my last article I mentioned how the honor guard would be on center stage presenting “the Colors” at the Knights’ Family Night to Celebrate Vocations at the Lugnuts baseball game where a few thousand fans saw us. Also at the installation of State Officers on September 8, hundreds would see us at the installation Mass at St. Gerard Church. **Our largest audience will be September 22 at the Diocese of Lansing 3rd Assembly, “Made for Happiness”. The honor guard will lead the Eucharistic Procession of thousands from St. Mary Cathedral to the Breslin Center.**

In the Breslin Center the honor guard will have various assignments, guards during Eucharistic Adoration, participating in the Mass and escorting Extraordinary Ministers during Communion. In the Breslin Center we will be visible to the expected 15,000 participants. **This is our time to shine. We will need as many honor guard as we can get.** We will need the honor guard to look good and perform well. Look for more details to come on this call-out opportunity.

With all that said about being the center of attention, it is not the honor guard being the center of attention for ourselves but our presence shows our support for our Church, bishop, and priests. Keep this in mind when you receive an honor guard call-out.

There are many other volunteer opportunities for those other than honor guard. You can see and sign up for the volunteer requirements by copying into your browsers the following or clicking the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0a4ba9ad23a4f85-knights>.

I know some of us have been waiting a very long time to receive the new 4th degree uniform. I did hear of uniforms being received recently. If you would like to check on the status of your order call 1-833-562-4327 or e-mail to support@kofcuniform.com.

Anyone thinking about joining the Color Corps or having any questions about it should contact me at 485-5886 or curriewmm@aol.com

Bill Currie
Commander



Fundraiser

Helping to send a wounded Veteran to Lourdes..

Join us for an **Afternoon / Evening of Fun** at Columbus Hall Listening and Dancing to Oldie's music themed after a **USO Canteen Dance**. Talk with Veterans, see a Blackhawk Helicopter, enjoy Hot Dogs & Hamburgers and of course, the Hall Bar will be open for your enjoyment.

A **FREE WILL Donation** will be accepted and **ALL** monies raised will help fund a Wounded Warrior on the Pilgrimage of a lifetime, the **Knights of Columbus** annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes, France. This is a **Golden opportunity** to say **Thank You** and express our gratitude. More information at: <http://www.warriorstolourdes.com>

It costs \$2600 to send 1 US Wounded Veteran to Lourdes. **Help us to Help them..**



USO Canteen Dance

 Veterans and
 Active Duty
 Men and
 Women; wear
 your Ribbons or
 Uniform to be
 recognized in
 serving our
 Country.

Saturday November 3rd

2:00 to 9:00 pm

Columbus Hall

5300 N. Grand River Lansing, Mi



Jointly sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree
 Lansing Assembly 3334 and Bishop Albers Assembly 0496

Ken Balcer FN 517.282.5948

Ken Watterson FN 517.881.0812



Upcoming Assembly 3334 Meetings & Events

- 9/8 Installation of State Officer at St. Gerard's Parish. Mass at 4:30pm
- 9/18 **Assembly Meeting 7:30 pm/6:30pm Honor Guard practice**

- 9/22 Made for Happiness Assembly
 - 10/16 Assembly Meeting 7:30 pm/6:30pm Honor Guard practice**
 - 10/17 76th Exemplification in Swartz Creek, 5:30pm
 - 11/3 Warriors to Lourdes Fundraiser 2pm-9pm
 - 11/20 Assembly Meeting 7:30 pm/6:30pm Honor Guard practice**
 - 12/18 Corey's-Fraternal Night with Family-6:00 pm
-

Our Next Assembly Meeting is:
Tuesday, September 18th, 2018

Church of the Resurrection
1527 E Michigan Ave, Lansing, MI 48912

Visit the Assembly Website at www.kofc3334.org. Email us at assembly3334@gmail.com.

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