



FOURTH DEGREE ANNOUNCEMENT

BISHOP GALLAGHER ASSEMBLY 1091
Home Assembly of District VI Master Joe Moreno, Jr.

SEPTEMBER 2009 Newsletter

<http://www.stjosephbcs.org/documents/4thdegreeannouncements.pdf>

**Month of
Our Lady
of Sorrows**

Sir Knights - You are bestowed the honor of Knighthood and continue in your journey in learning the lesson of PATRIOTISM. The major purpose of Fourth Degree membership is fostering the spirit of PATRIOTISM in members and the community and encouraging Catholic citizenship. As a Fourth Degree Knight, you are requested to be a part of the Assembly's Color Corps. As an honor guard, you are recognized widely by the distinctive attire of tuxedo, feathered hat (chapeau), cape, and sword. You are obligated to take part in civic events, such as parades and wreath-laying ceremonies, and in ecclesial functions at our Catholic churches.



**"WELCOME HOME"
SIR KNIGHT
DENNIS HOFFMAN**



COLOR CORPS ACTIVITIES

Be prepared to fall out when requested for corporate communions, funerals, weddings, baptisms, and other events.

September 12-13, Saturday-Sunday – Sir Knights serve as honor guard at 6:30 p.m. Corporate Communion Mass for Fourth Degree candidates at St. Mary Church of the Assumption in West. Arrive by 6 p.m. for instructions.

September 20, Sunday – Sir Knights serve as honor guard at 8 a.m. Corporate Communion Mass for Major Degree candidates at St. Anthony Church in Bryan. Arrive by 7:30 a.m. for instructions.

MEETINGS & OTHER EVENTS

August 25, Tuesday – THANK YOU Sir Knights for attending the Assembly 1091 regular meeting. THANK YOU SK Lupe Ostiguin for preparing the wonderful meal from food left over from Council 11759 Sportsman's Banquet.

September 11, Friday – 9-11 Anniversary. Fly The Flag Day. Remember Our Lost Brothers in New York and Washington, D.C. Pray for our military and local emergency responders.

September 22, Tuesday – Assembly 1091 Regular Meeting. Social begins at 7 p.m. followed by meal and meeting. Bring a Brother Sir Knight to the meeting.

October 27, Tuesday – The regular scheduled 4th Degree meeting is cancelled because of SK duties as honor guard at the 6 p.m. Mass preceding the Clergy Appreciation Banquet at St. Thomas Aquinas in College Station.

EXEMPLIFICATIONS

Refer to the State, Diocese, District, and Assembly KofC Web sites for more information on scheduled degrees.

September 12-13, Saturday-Sunday – Two-day Fourth Degree Exemplification at West hosted by Msgr. George E. Doscocil Assembly 2391. Registration from 9 to 10 a.m. followed by Fun Day activities. Mass at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary Church of the Assumption (303 S. Harrison Street). Social and banquet at 7:30 p.m. at KofC Hall (on Jerry Mashek Drive). Exemplification at 10 a.m. Sunday (candidates arrive at 8 a.m.). Candidate must be a 3rd Degree Knight and been in order for at least 6 months. Registration forms and fees for each Sir Knight and guest were due August 30 to Comptroller Johnny Hoelscher. Overnight lodging available at Czech Inn Motel in West (114 Melodie Drive; call 254-826-0900 for reservations; ask for KofC block, which ended August 28. \$79 per night.) For a full and updated schedule of events, visit the "calendar" at the State Council Web site (<http://www.tkofc.org/index.php?name=CPGNuCalendar>).

Plan to attend the following degree exemplifications and support our prospects who will become future Sir Knights.

September 16, Wednesday – First Degree Exemplification at St. Thomas Aquinas - Zurek Hall - in College Station. Candidates arrive by or before 6:30 p.m. Exemplification begins at 7:30 p.m. [In fraternal year 2008-2009, four First Degree Exemplifications conducted in College Station brought in 61 new Knights.] The degree is posted at the State Council "calendar" site, <http://www.tkofc.org/index.php?name=CPGNuCalendar>.

September 20, Sunday – Major Degree Exemplification hosted by Council 1834. Dress is full regalia for the 8 a.m. corporate communion mass at St. Anthony Church. Exemplification begins at 10 a.m. at the council hall. Go to the State Web site (http://www.tkofc.org/index.php?name=Pro_News&aid=151) for more information. [On October 26, 2008, twenty-five Knights from 11 councils received their 2nd & 3rd Degrees in Bryan.]

COMMUNICATIONS

[Communications received during August were in regards to promoting attendance at the fall exemplifications.]

WE PRAY FOR THESE AND OTHERS IN THE MILITARY

Sgt. Joseph Chance Bowman
Cpl. David Braden
S/Sgt. Tim Braden
PFC Ross Carrabba
2LT Joseph D'Agostino
A1C Clinton Dorlocourt
Capt. Johnathan Esparza
Capt. Jennifer Esparza
Pvt. Justin A. Garner
SPC Jay Geronime
Sgt. Jeffrey Geronime
Seaman Justin Geronime
Sgt. Nchia Kedze Ghong
SP4 Mark A. Gorzycki
Pvt. Cody Joe Hodges
Spec. Justin Hubacek
1SG Christopher Jadowski
HM E-2 Kyra Jimenez
Sgt. Gilbert D. Juarez

Col. Michael G. Kelley
SP4 Rusty Wayne Lanicek
Cpl. Brian M. Lindsay
M/Sgt Brian Locke
Sgt. Juan Antonio Lopez
Col. Mark C. Losack
MGY/Sgt. Stephen P. Losack
PFC Ricardo A. Luna
SSgt Timothy Luza, Jr.
† Capt. Sean E. Lyerly †
CS3 Morgan McConal
M/Sgt. Doug McMillan
LCpl. Gabriel Marteil
1st Lt. Misty Munoz
Major Michael E. Ogden
Sgt. Christopher Ordogne
Sgt. Christopher Orta
CS2 Mandi Belcik Parks
WO1 Jeffrey Pivonka

PFC Ariel Quinones
Sgt. Michael Ramirez
LCpl. Patrick R. Reade
LCpl. James Robinson
Sgt. Adrian Rodriguez
Sgt. Joel Rodriguez
PFC Marcus Ruiz
LCpl. Michael Ruiz
SPC Jay Saculla
PFC Daniel Stadler
Cpl. Daniel W. Schwartz
LCpl. Douglas W. Schwartz
A1C Laramie Sowder
2nd Lt. Sean Taylor
Major Ryan Ussery
Sgt. Matt White
1st Lt. Forrest Womack
M/Sgt. Sherrie Yeates
S/Sgt. Michael Zeig

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

Assembly 1091 and Assembly 2041 request support of the following Grand Knights in promoting the Patriotic Degree: Council 1834 GK Clarence Lambrecht, Council 3205 GK Russ Kellen, Council 10555 GK John Sifuentes, Jr., Council 10624 GK Christopher Drury, and Council 11759 GK Chris Nugent.

As of September 1, 2009, Assembly 1091's membership is 95. Eleven Sir Knights have Honorary Life status. 56 SKs have paid their dues for the fraternal year.

The fraternal year's quota for Assembly 1091 is 9 new members (10% of paid membership). [The assembly has not brought in a new Sir Knight since October 5, 2008.]

HAVE YOU ASKED A THIRD DEGREE KNIGHT TO BE A SIR KNIGHT ?

AWARDS PROGRAM



The "To Be A Patriot" (single best activity) and "Civic Award" (four varied programs) applications are due annually on June 1 to the District Master. [Assembly 1091 has received the "Civic Award" and the "Our Lady of Guadalupe Provincial Award of Excellence" over the past few years. The Civic Award application was completed and mailed to Supreme this past June by SK Larry Ermis. An outstanding and community-wide activity must be completed to be considered for the "To Be A Patriot" award.]

ASSEMBLY 1091 OFFICERS

Faithful Navigator Larry Finch

Faithful Friar Monsignor John McCaffrey

Faithful Comptroller Johnny Hoelscher

Faithful Captain Mike Orozco

Faithful Admiral Louis De La Cruz, Jr.

Faithful Purser Larry Ermis

Faithful Pilot John McGuill

Faithful Scribe Steve "Mike" Swetish

Inner Sentinel Steve Rathbone

Outer Sentinel Wes Thompson

1-yr Trustee Val Lopez

2-yr Trustee Charlie Ballew

3-yr Trustee Roel Villarreal

CONTACTS FOR FOURTH DEGREE INFORMATION

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Assembly 1091 Faithful Navigator
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SK Johnny Hoelscher
Assembly 1091 Comptroller
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SK Joe Moreno, Jr.
District VI Master & Assembly 1091 PFN
979.779.6168 jmoreno1941@verizon.net



PROMOTING THE FOURTH DEGREE

Through their leadership and dedication, Fourth Degree Knights have earned their place as the most visible arm of the Order. Having a close relationship with a Fourth Degree assembly will benefit your council and its members. Not only are Fourth Degree members less likely to lapse or go inactive, but they also know the importance of active members and what they mean to projects, events, volunteering, and so on. To bridge any gaps that may exist between your council and assembly, agreeing on a Fourth Degree representative or liaison is a good idea. This way, the council will have a go-to person who can represent the assembly and take any questions or concerns that may arise when organizing, scheduling, or meeting. Along with the Fourth Degree representative serving the council, it is a good idea to periodically, if not regularly, to invite the faithful navigator to report on assembly activity at council meetings and to recruit members for the Fourth Degree. To qualify for the Fourth Degree a member must be 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the country in which he resides, be a member of the Order for at least 12 months, and a member in good standing with his council. Ideally, every Third Degree Knight should become a Fourth Degree Knight to make the Order's presence in the community more visible and to assist councils in recruitment efforts.

SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED

Our military personnel voluntarily act as the protectors of our nations, standing on the front lines while keeping us safe behind them. The Knights of Columbus acknowledges this unselfish act of patriotism by promoting the "Serving Those Who Served" program. Members of the Order should honor and assist these men and women. To honor military personnel for their services, assemblies and councils can give their time volunteering at veterans' hospitals, clinics, and health care facilities. This is a great way to show veterans that their efforts and sacrifices are not forgotten. Councils can also send greeting or birthday cards to hospitalized veterans and military personnel stationed away from home. Let the veterans and current members of the military know that the Knights of Columbus appreciates their service and sacrifice. Take the time to honor or assist them in a way that is worthy of their military service.

The Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service, VAVS, is the vehicle that assemblies use in the "Serving Those Who Served" program. Through this service, the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Veteran's Hospital volunteers are organized by having one of their members become a certified representative at the hospital. Our certified members attend hospital meetings and organize efforts for K of C volunteers. The Knights of Columbus currently has a VAVS Committee at almost every VA medical center and clinic in the United States. These committees consist of at least one certified representative and up to three deputy representatives from the Knights of Columbus. In the United States, the VA hospitals, clinics and facilities need all types of volunteer services — from program planning to visiting veterans. For more information on this outstanding program, please contact your Fourth Degree district master or locate the closest VA Medical center.

Assemblies and councils can also honor military personnel and veterans throughout the year by presenting them with Patriotic Service Award certificates. These certificates are available from the Supreme Council Supply Department. Also available is the Armed Forces Certificate that can be presented to members of the military as an expression of gratitude for service to the defense of "mankind's basic rights to a life of freedom and dignity."

HISTORY OF BISHOP N. A. GALLAGHER ASSEMBLY

In the early years of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus of the State of Texas, the state was divided into the Southern district and the Northern district. Five Sir Knights were assigned to the Southern district with headquarters in Houston. They were Father J. B. Gleissner, Frank Zubic Sr., Raymond Valouch, Gus Schultz, and H. B. McDowell. In 1936, Joe Havel, Frank Havel, Frank Schultz, Jerome Zubik, Sam Restivo, and Father Tim Valenta joined the Fourth Degree in Houston. This provided enough membership to institute an Assembly in Bryan. On June 8, 1940, the charter was drawn up with the Houston Assembly officers doing the honors. Bishop N. A. Gallagher was chosen for the Assembly name because Bishop Gallagher was the Bishop of Galveston who ordained Father Gleissner as a priest. Father Gleissner became the first Friar, and Louis Bolmanski became the first Faithful Navigator. As the membership in the state grew, the state was divided into districts in accordance with the Diocese boundaries. Assembly 1091, being in the Austin Diocese, became part of District VI. Three local Sir Knights were privileged to serve as Masters in the Austin Diocese. They include Jerome "Jack" Zubik, Colonel Walter Parsons, Frank Scanlin, and Joe Moreno, Jr.

FOURTH DEGREE ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

The Fourth Degree is the highest degree of the order. Members of the degree are addressed as "Sir Knight." The primary purpose of the Fourth Degree is to foster the spirit of patriotism and to encourage active Catholic citizenship. Fewer than 20% of Knights join the 4th Degree, which is an optional degree. A Knight must be active in his council for one year before he can join a Fourth Degree Assembly (the time requirement may be reduced to six months under special circumstances).



Assemblies (such as our Assembly 1091) are distinct from councils and are led by a separate set of elected officers. The Supreme Board of Directors appoints a Supreme Master (currently Joseph P. Schultz), and twenty Vice-Supreme Masters to govern the Fourth Degree. Each Vice-Supreme Master (our VSM is Richard Schulte) oversees a Province (our province is Our Lady of Guadalupe) which is then broken up into Districts (our assembly is in District 6). The Supreme Master appoints District Masters to supervise several assemblies (our District Master is Joe Moreno, Jr., and his assistant is District Marshal Frank Lara).

Each assembly is led by a Navigator (our Navigator is Larry Finch). Other elected assembly officers include the Captain, Admiral, Pilot, Scribe, Purser, Comptroller, Sentinels, and Trustees (refer to previous listing of Assembly 1091 officers). A Friar and Color Corps Commander are appointed by the Navigator. Assembly officers are properly addressed by using the title "Faithful" (for example, Faithful Navigator). Assemblies are numbered in the order in which they chartered into the Order and are named by the local membership (as discussed elsewhere in this newsletter, our Assembly 1091 is named after Bishop N. A. Gallagher).

Rank	Color
Vice-Supreme Master	Blue Cape and Blue Chapeau
District Master	Gold Cape and Gold Chapeau
District Marshal	Green Cape and Green Chapeau
Faithful Navigator	White Cape and White Chapeau
Assembly Commander	Purple Cape and Purple Chapeau
Color Corps Members	Red Cape and White Chapeau

Only Fourth Degree Knights may optionally purchase the full regalia and join the Assembly's Color Corps. The Color Corps is the most "visible arm" of the Knights as they are often seen during masses, at parades, and other local events wearing their colorful regalia. Official dress for the Color Corps is black tuxedo, service baldric, white gloves, cape, and naval chapeau. White tuxedos may also be used on certain occasions, especially at the Supreme and State levels. Baldrics are worn from the right shoulder to left hip and are color specific by nation. In the United States, baldrics are red, white, and blue. A service baldric includes a holster for a sword and is worn over the coat while a social baldric is worn under the coat. The colors of the cape and chapeau denote the office that the Sir Knight holds within the Fourth Degree. Faithful Navigators and Past Faithful Navigators are permitted to carry white-handled silver swords. Masters and Vice-Supreme Masters, as well as Former Masters and Former Vice-Supreme Masters, are recognized by their gold swords.

The need for a patriotic degree was first considered in 1886; a special plea was made at the National Meeting in 1899. The first 4th Degree exemplification was in 1900 with 1,100 Knights participating at the Lenox Lyceum in New York. Today, the order has more than 2,500 Assemblies.

[Source: [http://www.answers.com/topic/knights-of-columbus.](http://www.answers.com/topic/knights-of-columbus)]

If an annual meeting is held during 2009-2010, the minutes of that meeting will be posted here.

Knights of Columbus District VI – Fourth Degree

Our Lady of Guadalupe Province

SK Joseph LaBarbera, District Master

Minutes of Annual Meeting

10 am – Noon, April 5, 2008 Council 7014 Hall, Rockdale, Texas

1. The annual meeting was called to order by District Master (DM) Joe LaBarbera. Each assembly in attendance received a folder containing the meeting agenda and the minutes of last year's meeting.
2. SK David Orolfo of Assembly 2245 registered fifty-one attendees. SK Tommy Grimes of Assembly 2587 served as head treasurer to collect \$6 per meal ticket from each attendee for lunch. SK Larry J. Ermis of Assembly 1091 served as meeting recorder.
3. Invocation was given by SK Phil Leibowitz of Msgr. J. O'Reilly Assembly 1138, Temple, TX
4. All participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
5. Credentials Committee Report (Attendance: 20 assemblies = 38 delegates & 13 non-voting members)
Two assemblies had 3 delegates each present: Austin #1099 and Temple #1138.
Fourteen assemblies had 2 delegates each present: Bryan #1091, La Grange #1095, Brenham #1106, Wallis #1142, Copperas Cove #1809, College Station #2041, San Marcos #2088, Sealy #2103, Bremond 1143, Austin #2244, Round Rock #2245, Harker Heights #2370, Somerville-Rockdale-Caldwell #2587, Belton #2766, and Georgetown #2784.
Four assemblies had 1 delegate each present: Bremond #1143, Austin #2767, Horseshoe Bay (St Paul the Apostle) #2976, and Wimberley (Fr. Anthony P. Ferrer) #3052.
Five assemblies with two potential voting delegates each were not in attendance: Waco #1109, Columbus #1136, Weimar #1527, Killeen #1532, and West #2391.
Ten assemblies had a total of 13 non-voting members in attendance: Bryan #1091 (2), La Grange #1095 (1), Bremond #1143 (1), College Station #2041 (1), Round Rock #2245 (2), Harker Heights #2370 (2), Somerville-Rockdale-Caldwell #2587 (1), Georgetown #2784 (1), Horseshoe Bay (St Paul the Apostle) #2976 (1), and Wimberley (Fr. Anthony P. Ferrer) #3052 (1).
6. Introductions: DM Joe LaBarbera recognized all former masters in attendance. Then, each SK introduced himself by name and assembly affiliation.
7. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: After corrections of two items (changing presenter's name offering the invocation and adding another attendee from Bremond Assembly #1143), it was moved and seconded to approve the May 12, 2007 minutes. Motion passed.
8. Comments on IRS forms 990 and 990E. All assemblies must file a Form 990E from now on. Information is at www.irs.gov. Discussion of the forms will be presented at State KofC Convention.
9. DM Report (Joe LaBarbera):
 - A. Assembly reports must be filed on a timely basis: Report of Elected Officers (Form 186) is due July 1. Annual Assembly Audit Report is due August 1. Survey of Fraternal Activities (Form 1728) is due January 31. DM Joe LaBarbera emphasized promotion of newsletters by assemblies.
 - B. District Handbook Review: The assembly commander or marshal should discuss the exemplification ceremony or mass with the celebrant or pastor before the event. Proper Dress: Regalia should be clean. Do not wear wing tip collars. Do not wear the social baldric with the service baldric; the service baldric may substitute as a social baldric, but only as necessary. Do not remove gloves during mass (except during communion). During the Lords Prayer, each SK should place his gloved left hand on the right shoulder of the SK to his left, while holding the chapeau over his left breast with his right gloved hand; the SK to the farthest left should extend his left arm with its open gloved hand outward and upward to the left. When wearing the 4th Degree pin, the 1/2" size is preferred; do not wear the rhinestone pin. Wear the scapular medal near the heart. The officer jewel can be worn at any time. Do not wear a "double" U.S. flag pin; the single U.S. flag is worn on the lapel above the 4th Degree pin. The chapeau is to remain in possession of the SK during mass (do not lay it on the bench; keep it on your chest or lap, as appropriate). Several priests prefer the inverted sword (forming a cross) to the sword pointed upward. Also, become familiar with the Ceremonies and Dress Code information on page 10. Review the Protocol handbook on a regular basis.
 - C. Each district is required to have two degree exemplifications annually; thus, we have one in the fall (2 days) and another in the spring which is a one-day affair to promote clergy's attendance. [Supreme Ceremonials Chair has praised District VI for an outstanding exemplification team.]

- D. A copy of a candidate's completed Form 4 should be sent to the DM. Do not forget to place the candidate's KofC membership number in the upper blue area of the form. Insert the candidate's e-mail address near the top. Write legibly and press down on the pen for readable copies.
 - E. Master's Fund: FM Phil Fredericks explained the fund's purpose - allows maintenance of equipment for the exemplification team. DM Joe thanked all for their past support.
 - F. A candidate's registration cost for the exemplification is \$70, with the exception of \$35 for priests.
 - G. "To Be A Patriot Award" application is due June 1 (deadline is one month earlier than the past) to DM. The RSVP Award & Civic Award applications are due June 30 (you can submit applications electronically to all designated recipients). Our Lady of Guadalupe "Provincial Award of Excellence" is presented to assemblies that submit: 1. Form 186 (Report of elected officers), 2. Form 1728 (Survey of Fraternal Act.) 3. Attain membership intake goals, and 4. Submit Civic Award application Form 2321, which requires four different patriot programs during FY.
10. Unfinished Business:
- A. Schedule color/honor corps "fall-outs" as many times as possible (practice makes perfect). ALWAYS CHECK WITH PRIEST FIRST! Know the who, what, when, where, and why of fallouts. Honor guards may be requested for funerals, weddings, baptisms, and other events. Perform a 5th Saturday/Sunday fallout serving as mass ushers in tux. *We must remain "the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus."*
 - B. Membership Goals: Each assembly should strive to meet annual 10% membership gain quotas.
 - C. New Assemblies: We welcome Fr. Henry Ferrer Assembly #3052 of SE Austin to the district. Another assembly is in the making. It takes 30 members minimum to form a new assembly.
 - D. DM Joe LaBarbera said there is a need for Area Secretaries within the district to assist him in keeping in touch with assemblies. These SKs are his eyes and ears. Newly elected faithful navigators & comptrollers should send e-mail addresses to the DM for communications.
11. New Business:
- A. Committee Assignments: Inform the DM if you wish to serve at the District level.
 - B. Running of Silver Rose: The rose will be in the district, after the Provincial meeting, from mid September to December 8. The pilgrimage to Monterrey, Mexico is scheduled for 4 nights and 5 days (Tuesday, December 9 through Saturday, December 13); more information on details of event to be announced in the fall. Arrangements for transportation will be addressed.
 - C. Honor Guard / Color Corp Fun Day will be held in conjunction with the fall exemplification. Awards and a traveling trophy will be presented again.
 - D. Fall 2008 Exemplification: September 27/28 or October 4/5 at site to be determined. Spring 2009 Exemplification (one day): Date and site to be determined. Backups are needed for the Degree Team. The newly approved format will be used at the exemplifications.
 - E. Next Provincial Meeting: Date and site to be announced in future correspondence.
 - F. Supreme is soliciting assemblies to provide \$3 per SK to assist in financing the Incarnation Dome at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C. One-half million dollars is to be raised to match another one-half million from the Supreme fund.
 - G. All are encouraged to have representatives at the State Convention on May 2-4 in Dallas. Cardinal DiNardo, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, and Bishop Pat Zurek will be in attendance.
 - H. Harker Heights Assembly will receive International "To Be A Patriot Award" at State Convention.
 - I. Nomination speeches and Election of DM for 2008-2010. Nominees included Maurice "Moe" Esker, Phil Leibowitz, and Joe Moreno. The 38 secret ballot votes were sealed.
12. Meeting was adjourned at noon. Reminder: Pope Benedict XVI visits USA during April 15-20.
13. Lunch was provided at cost by Rockdale Knights of Columbus Council 7014.
14. After lunch, a review of Color Corps Drill Manual was presented by District Marshals Jesse Villarreal and Joe Moreno along with Color Corp Commanders in attendance.

Minutes prepared by SK Larry J. Ermis, Assembly 1091
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