

Monthly Newsletter



February 2023

Monsignor Edward T Rabroker Assembly 2784
Georgetown, Texas
Website: kofcassembly2784.org



Faithful Navigator's Message

This month [January], we had the highest attendance at a regular business meeting since before Covid (maybe ever, but I only checked back to 2018). Attendance at Masses continues to grow as more families move into Georgetown and the surrounding areas. We talk about increasing membership at the council level, but how about in the Patriotic Degree?

Ask yourself why you joined the Fourth Degree and why you continue to stay involved. For some, it was patriotism. For others it was the color corps or additional social activities. And then, ask why so many long-time council members still haven't joined the assembly?

Many believe that you are required to buy a uniform. Others say they don't have the time. I like to joke that the only thing you are REQUIRED to do is send in your dues money every year. The best way to dispel the misconceptions and increase our membership is to talk to guys one on one. Sit down with a friend at the next council meeting, ask them why they haven't signed up, then share your experiences.

The Spring Exemplification will be held on April 22 at St Thomas More on FM 620 (just south of the Cedar Park Costco). We have plenty of blank application forms and I challenge everyone to bring in just one new member.

Vivat Jesus,

Larry

**February Regular
Assembly Meeting:**

Tuesday, February 28

**Holy Trinity Catholic
Church at Corn Hill –
Parish Activity Center**

Mass 6:00 PM

Meal after Mass

Meeting at 7:00 PM



Faithful Friar's Letter

Dear Brother Knights,

We will soon begin the holy season of Lent on February 22. Lent is a time of more intense prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Mark your calendars now so that your schedules are free so that you can attend the Stations of the Cross at your parish. Most parishes have them on Fridays of Lent, but, we at Holy Trinity in Corn Hill have them on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm. Come to our Stations of the Cross on Wednesdays and that way you are free for the fish fries on Fridays.

During this holy season we are reminded of our need to be a people who recognize our sinfulness and are willing to go to confession and repent so that we may be better Catholic Christians in the world. Doing so we become more like the image of Jesus to others by living holy lives. Lent has always been a very special season for me and brings back many childhood memories of going to the Stations of the Cross with my mother and my brothers and sister. As a child I did not really understand what was going on, but I knew that it was something special as we went to Stations every Friday. Allow your children to have such a special memory by going with them to the Stations of the Cross.

“During this holy season we are reminded of our need to be a people who recognize our sinfulness and are willing to go to confession and repent so that we may be better Catholic Christians in the world...”

Maybe instead of giving up something for Lent it would be good to do something extra like going to Mass as often as possible during the week. Daily Mass can transform your life if you put your entire being into it. Allow Jesus to work miracles in your life today.

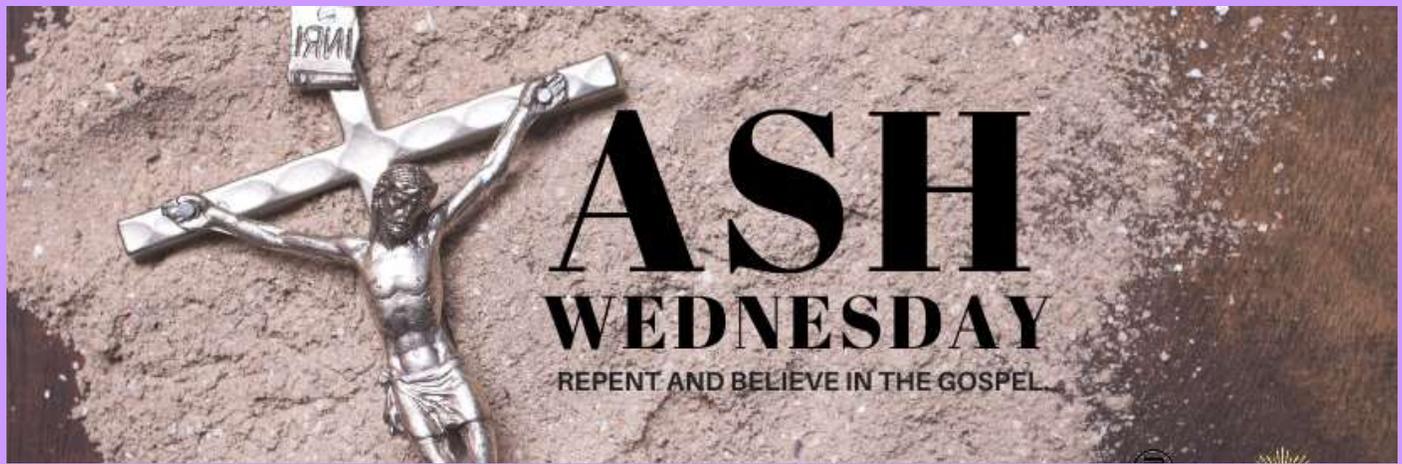
Thank you to all of you for your continued support.

In Christ,

Fr. Stephen Nesrsta

Faithful Friar

Save the Date -- Lent begins February 22, 2023





Color Corps Corner

The Color Corps participated in a Fall Out at St Helen's Parish on 28 January. Four Knights participated as Color Corps members. The Corps lead a procession to the Children's Garden following a White Cross Ceremony after the 5pm Saturday Mass. The event was to honor lost children due to illness, accident or abortion.

Thanks to all those who participated; Faithful Navigator Larry Deal, Faithful Pilot William Fejeran, PFN Chris Kolb and myself. Also, special thanks to Assembly member Pat Leone, PGK for his leadership as MC of the ceremony.

Also, Color Corps members Faithful Pilot William Fejeran and PGK Pat Leone responded to the fall out of the Color Corps contingent at the Texas Rally for Life on the morning of January 28.

If you have any questions about the Color Corps, please send me an email or call.

Bill Adams

Color Corps Commander

Tentative Color Corps Fallouts

❖ **Spring Exemplification**, Saturday, April 22, 2023, 11AM at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Austin. See last pages of this newsletter for more details.



PGK Pat Leone (l) and Faithful Pilot Bill Fejeran (r) represented our Assembly at the Rally for Life at the State Capitol in Austin on Saturday, February 28, 2023.

Save the Date

April 22, 2023

*Spring Exemplification of the
Patriotic Order*



*St. Thomas More
Catholic Church, Austin*

**See detailed information at the end of this
newsletter.**

White Cross Ceremony & Procession Photos



White crosses in front of St. Helen Catholic Church, which signify the fact that abortions are continuing ... However, our Color Corps led the procession to the Children's Garden which is adjacent to the next church entrance (Divine Mercy Loop) immediately to the east of where this photo was taken.



Color Corps Commander Bill Adams (l) and Faithful Navigator Larry Deal (r) with two St. Helen parishioners at the White Cross ceremony. Also present were Faithful Pilot Bill Fejeran and Faithful Admiral Chris Kolb (not shown).



PGK Pat Leone holding up two butterflies during the White Cross ceremony on February 28, 2023. This ceremony was to remember and honor children lost to illness, accident or abortion.

New Service Baldrics

Effective, January 11, 2023, there has been a change to certain service baldrics worn with a sword when wearing the Fourth Degree uniform. This change applies only to Color Corps "officer" service baldrics. So, if you are a member of our Color Corps and **you do not wear a colored flash on your beret, you are not impacted by this change**; and, you will continue to wear the white service baldric with the colors of our Country bordering the baldric.



The Faithful Navigator, and Past Faithful Navigators, will wear a plain white service baldric, without the red, white and blue borders.



Our current active Color Corps Commander will wear a purple service baldric.

You may also see the following colors at Fourth Degree fallouts, or at exemplifications:

- Marshal (active/ currently serving) – Green service baldric**
- District Master and Former District Master – Gold service baldric**
- Vice Supreme Master and Former Vice Supreme Master - Light Blue service baldric**
- Supreme Master and Former Supreme Master - Dark Blue service baldric**
- Supreme Knight and Former Supreme Knight - Dark Blue baldric [same as Supreme Master]**

Some of you may remember the proposal that a red flash with a matching red service baldric was being considered by Supreme to replace the service baldric for regular members. If this proposal was considered, it was not approved, as there is no change for regular members of the Color Corps as has been stated above.

New “officer” service baldrics may be ordered from the English Company. Regular member service baldrics may be ordered from English Company or from the website from which you order your Fourth Degree uniform. When ordering any service baldric, be advised it comes in three sizes. Measure the length from your right shoulder to the center of your left hip to ensure you order the right size (short, regular, or tall).

Email Problems

In the past, I have written extensively about members who lost their ability to get assembly or council emails because they had hit the Spam button. As things turn out, maybe I owe you an apology.

Researching it further, I noticed some trends. Most of our members have Gmail or Hotmail and we have never had a problem with one of these addresses. There have been a few issues with Yahoo, but most members with these addresses have been OK too. Almost all the problems have been with internet providers like Suddenlink and Verizon, or with older platforms like AOL and EarthLink.

I am no IT expert. Maybe it's their privacy settings. They may be blocking some emails or labeling them as spam based on your preferences. In any case, it's more than a coincidence that the problems are so concentrated on just a few types of providers.

It's a hassle to change email addresses. But, if you are having problems and want to continue to receive assembly emails, you might want to set up an additional email account using a different provider. If you do that, make sure to update your email address with Paul Chomka for submission to Supreme. You might also check your preferences if you are computer savvy. Otherwise, the alternative is US mail or word of mouth because we can't fix the "blocking" problems from our end.



One additional caution - use care when deleting groups of emails instead of removing them individually. It's very easy to include an email you didn't mean to delete.

FN Larry Deal, Webmaster

2023 Meeting Schedule

These are the planned 2023 dates and locations for our meetings:

February 28 - Holy Trinity - Parish Activity Center

March 28 - Santa Rosa - Carr Hall

April 25 - Saint Helen - Frizelle Hall

May 23 - Santa Rosa - Carr Hall

June 24 - Picnic -- Santa Rosa - Carr Hall **(after 5PM Mass)**

June 27 - Holy Trinity - Parish Activity Center

We will lead off with a religious activity then gather for social time and, whenever possible, a meal and beverages.

Please check the website, newsletters, and emails for the upcoming schedule.

Meeting Protocols

Regular Schedule		
St Helen		Santa Rosa & Holy Trinity
Setup	6:00	<i>Setup time depends on meal preparation. 5:30 If brought from outside. As required for on site preparation.</i>
Mass		6:00
Meal	6:15	6:30
Rosary/other Prayer	6:45	
Meeting	7:00	7:00
<i>Please sign both the Assembly and the Parish attendance sheets.</i>		

Will You be Watching a Groundhog on February 2

According to a Pennsylvania German tradition if the groundhog, **Punxsutawney Phil**, emerges from his burrow on February 2 and sees his shadow due to clear weather, he will retreat to his hole, and winter will go on for six more weeks; if he does not see his shadow because of cloudiness, Spring will arrive early.

But way before the Germans brought this tradition to this country [The Germans blamed the weather on a badger in the “Old Country” before seeing a groundhog], the Scottish based their predictions on a religious holiday. “If Candlemas be fine and clear, There’ll be two winters in the year.”

Candlemas is the former name of the Feast of the *Presentation of the Lord*, which takes place 40 days after Christmas. It was the day where Jesus was presented at the temple and bought back for the price of two turtle doves. It was the day that Simeon predicted that a sword would pierce Mary’s heart.

While there is little evidence that this weather prediction was based upon any person’s faith; it is interesting that a popular religious holiday was the day which some people stopped to ponder the weather upon which many farmers would make important decisions. Maybe there is something more important to focus attention on than a Pennsylvania rodent on this February 2.



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Assembly’s Social Dinner at Pok-E-Jo’s
Thursday, February 16 - 5PM

610 N. Austin Ave
Georgetown, TX 78626
See Y’all There!

2022-2023 Assembly Officers

- Faithful Friar.....Father Stephen Nesrsta
- Faithful Navigator.....Larry Deal
- Faithful Admiral.....Chris Kolb
- Faithful Captain.....Gary Bowers
- Faithful Pilot..... William Fejeran
- Faithful Scribe..... Harry Larkin
- Faithful Purser.....Anthony Lanni
- Faithful Comptroller.....Paul Chomka
- Faithful Inner Sentinel..... Robert Miller
- Faithful Outer Sentinel.....Don Ladolcetta
- Faithful Trustee 3 Year..... Doug Harman
- Faithful Trustee 2 Year. Jim Von der Vellen
- Faithful Trustee 1 Year..... Tony Saviano



FLY YOUR FLAG

4 US Code Sec. 6 (U.S. Flag Code) indicates that our nation’s flag should be flown, weather permitting, from sunrise to sunset. “However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.”

Flag Holidays and Remembrance Days in February:

- ❖ **President Lincoln’s Birthday:** February 12
- ❖ **President’s Day:** February 20
- ❖ **Defense of the Alamo Begins (Texas):** February 22



Assembly Name Tags Orders for Members and Wives

If you need an **Assembly name tag**, please contact FN Larry Deal for an **emailed copy of the order form for our ladies**. Also, several of our ladies have ordered name tags from our supplier, “What’s My Name”. These badges are customized for their preferences so they must be sent in individually.



Chalice Presentation

SK James Pawlak Chalice

In November, Monsignor Rabroker Assembly 2784 presented a chalice to Annette Pawlak in memory of her husband, SK Jim Pawlak, PFN.

On December 18, 2022 his family, assisted by local Knights, donated the chalice to Holy Rosary Catholic Church during the 11:00 AM Mass. Holy Rosary is in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, which was the Pawlaks' summer home.



The Pawlak Family at Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.



Ceremony where the chalice, which was presented in the memory of SK Jim Pawlak, is donated to Holy Rosary Catholic Church assisted by the local KofC Council on December 18, 2022.

2023 Dues Payment

By now, if you haven't already paid your dues, you have probably received your second notice via both email and US mail. With the cost of stamps and printing costs, delayed dues payments cost several dollars for each member who "just hasn't got around to it yet". If you are having medical or financial issues, or have questions, [please contact Paul Chomka](#).

Regular dues are \$20 per year.

- ❖ Mail a check to Paul Chomka, 107 Piedmont Ln, Georgetown, 78633
- ❖ Make checks payable to: ***KofC Assembly 2784***

Knights of Columbus

Patriotic Degree

Our Lady of Guadalupe Province

SK Jesus R Villarreal Jr
District VI Master

April 22, 2023 Exemplification
In Honor of
Sir Knight Steve Musil



CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Exemplification Fee

Exemplification fee is \$90, which must be submitted with Membership Form 4 through your Assembly to the District Master.

Assemblies sponsoring priests must submit a Form 4 and \$35 fee for each priest. "No show" candidates (less than five-day notice) other than priests will be assessed \$35.

The District Master must receive all Form 4s with a check payable to "Knights of Columbus" (with "DM Fund" on the memo line) from the Faithful Controller by April 1, 2023 for the candidate(s) to be listed in the program.

Candidates will receive Patriotic Degree lapel pin, social baldric, and (later) a certificate.

Requirements to join the Patriotic Degree

Candidates must be 3rd Degree Knights in good standing with their Council and bring their 3rd Degree membership card to the Exemplification.

Official Dress for the Day - Candidates

Black, dark blue, or dark gray business suit with a white shirt, a dark tie, black socks and black shoes. *No boots. No sport coats. No button-down collars. No ruffles.*

Priests and Transitional Deacons should wear clerical attire. Active-duty members of the Armed Forces and first responders may wear their dress uniform. These are the only exceptions to official dress for the day.

REQUIRED PAPERWORK

Candidates must complete Sections 1-4 of the Form 4. Proposer must add his name and membership number and sign Section 4.

Council Financial Secretary must review and sign Section 5 to verify that the candidate is a 3rd Degree member in good standing and to confirm the membership# and 1st Degree date.

Assembly Faithful Navigator and Faithful Comptroller must sign Section 5 to indicate acceptance into the Assembly. The Assembly number and city must also be included.

Faithful Controller must forward the Form 4s with all proper signatures along with a check to cover exemplification fee, ladies' program, and additional banquet tickets needed. **Paperwork and checks are due to the District Master by April 1, 2023.**

PATRIOTIC DEGREE UNIFORM

The official uniform is available from <http://kofcuniform.com>. Cost is \$449 plus shipping for basic uniform: jacket, pants, tie, and beret.

In lieu of the uniform, Sir Knights can wear the candidate dress of the day plus social baldric and Patriotic Degree pin. If wearing a tuxedo, wear it as a suit with a long tie and a plain shirt.

The District Master will raffle off a uniform at the banquet if there is enough interest. Tickets will be \$10 for one or \$20 for three. He will also raffle a uniform for existing SKs if there is sufficient interest.

TICKETS

Candidates are guests of the Master and will be given one Saturday night banquet ticket if attending. All others must purchase banquet tickets through their Assembly. Tickets will be handed out at the registration table.

Extra banquet tickets: \$35 each
Ladies' Program: \$25 each

All tickets must be ordered through the Assembly's Faithful Comptroller. He must submit one check payable to "Knights of Columbus" (with "DM Fund" on the memo line) with names of candidates and others attending by April 1, 2023 to:

Jesus R Villarreal Jr
Master-Texas 6th District
212 S Judge Hailey Dr
P.O. Box 221
Lott, TX 76656

MEMBER INFORMATION

All Sir Knights are encouraged to attend the Exemplification and Mass. Sir Knights must wear uniform or dress as listed to the left and bring their 3rd Degree and Patriotic Degree membership cards.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, April 22, 2023

All events will take place at:
St Thomas More Catholic Church
10205 FM 620 N
Austin, TX 78726

The Life House is the 1st building on the left side of the entrance drive. Brennan Auditorium is behind the statues that are behind the church. The PAC is the 2nd building on the left side of the entrance drive.

Note: Times in blue have changed from original flyer.

11am-1pm: Registration: TBD: Life House or Brennan Auditorium

1pm: Candidates assemble for final instructions followed by group photograph.

1pm: Ladies' Program participants meet in the Life House.

1:30pm-3:30pm: Exemplification: PAC

4:15pm: Candidates assemble for Mass.

5-6pm: Mass

6-7pm: Social and photo opportunity for singles or couples in the Hall.

7-8:30pm: Banquet: Meal to honor the new Sir Knights at the PAC.

LADIES' PROGRAM

Note: Times in blue have changed from original flyer.

1pm-3:45pm: A fun and interesting program will be planned for the ladies. After the program, they can join their new Sir Knight husbands for Mass and the banquet.

HOTEL INFORMATION

TBD

PICTURES

A group picture will be taken just prior to the exemplification. The photographer will be available during the social to take pictures of couples or others for a nominal fee.

HOST ASSEMBLY

St. Maximilian Kolbe Assembly 2767
10205 FM 620 N
Austin, Tx 78726
Kevin Brinkman - FN

Austin Chapter K of C website
<http://kofcaustin.org/>