



The Boylan Bytes

The Newsletter of the
Bishop Boylan Assembly 0198
Knights of Columbus
Woodstock, IL



March 2017

Greetings Faithful Sir Knights of Assembly 0198, all Our Brother Sir Knights, Brother Knights and Friends!

Welcome to the **March** issue of ***The Boylan Bytes!***

Confirmation season is fast upon us once again! What a great way to show the world who we are... processing into church leading our Faithful Brother Sir Knight The Most Reverend David J Malloy, Bishop of the Diocese of Rockford. We are not there so everyone can see how great we look, but to see the Respect and Honor we perform for both His Grace and **their** faith community. The kind words of him and his predecessors on the "honor and dignity we present on this auspicious occasion" make us proud to be there fulfilling a duty of the Fourth Degree. The turnout for these call-outs has been very good, especially since Bishop Malloy is a great believer of weekday confirmations. It is not easy for anyone still employed to hit the SUT a half an hour before the normal 5:30 PM Mass.

A comment from last month's issue was we need more Red Capes! Well, maybe... for those of you who are not up to date on the Honor Guard make-up, we are led in by the Commanders with the Purple Cape and Chapeau. This color is appointed by the Faithful Navigator and Captain. We currently have the pleasure of three SKs wearing purple, with the intent that at least two can show up. Not always possible, but we have had three there before. If there is only one, then generally a Past Faithful Navigator, in White Cape and Chapeau, will lead one of the columns. These are followed by the Honor Guard made up of Color Corps in Red Cape and White Chapeau, followed by any other Past FN's and then the current Faithful Navigator brings up the rear in the center, immediately before the Bishop (or main celebrant). When a SK is elected FN, he receives the ceremonial White Cape, although most all buy their own new one. Once earned, the White Cape may be worn for life, unless a higher rank is attained. We as an Assembly are blessed with a number of current PFNs, so we can have about a dozen show up. We have in fact held Honor Guards with over 20 members, a sight to see and an Honor to these we lead.

Outside of the Assembly, we could have SKs in the Green Cape and Chapeau of the District Marshalls, the Gold of the Faithful Master of the District, plus several Former Masters... then of course the Powder Blue of the Vice-Supreme Master, and finally the Navy Blue of the Supreme Master of the Fourth Degree. So really, the make-up of any given Honor Guard depends on who is available. Looking at our Website roster, there are a lot of SKs who are not listed as having Regalia, but we just aren't caught up yet! A good question is, how many SKs have their tux, but not the Regalia? Or not all of it? We have had some discussions recently about this... some Councils, like mine do have spare items that have been donated by either SKs not able to use them anymore or else they have been donated back to us after the SK has gone to his just rewards. Some of

that Regalia is not able to be used for many reasons so needs to be discarded. But we need to come up with a better plan for these items so that someone who wants to use them can have them available. Takes some coordination... none of us what to carry around several sets just to have them not used. Sooooo, if you have an idea or a plan or are willing to coordinate this effort, let us know!

The MASTER's AWARD... how many of you are aware of this unique award that is available to a Sir Knight? The late Sir Knight and Former Master Ben Daniel created this in 1983.

“The Master’s Medallion” is an award acknowledging the outstanding service of a Fourth Degree member for his dedication to his parish, community as well as the Knights of Columbus. It was a medallion on a ribbon that was inscribed with the Sir Knights name and date of presentation. The purpose was to recognize those Sir Knights that went above and beyond the call of duty.

Since its inception in 1983, 614 Sir Knights have received this award. The following is the list of Bishop Boylan recipients?

1989 SK John Doherty	1991 SK William Davis	1992 SK Robert Koch
1992 SK Mitchell Przetacznik	1992 SK Donald Heines	1993 SK John Devine
1993 SK William Miller	1994 SK George Mowry	1995 SK Eric Erickson
1996 SK John T Snell	1997 SK Robert M Wagner	1998 SK John Nash
2002 SK Jerome Wedige	2002 SK Chuck Edfors	2007 SK Robert Howell
2008 SK John Stefani	2009 SK Clarence Gburek	2010 SK Mark Heiress
2012 SK Gerald Smith, Jr	2012 SK Msgr James McLoughlin	
2012 SK Gerard Weber, Jr	2013 SK Daniel O’Connell, Jr	
	2014 SK Michael Jasinski	

In 2012, The “Master’s Medallion” was no longer awarded on allowed to be worn as a part of the Regalia. It was replaced by the “Pro Deo Et Patria” award, designed by former Master and Current Vice Supreme Master of the Marquette Province, SK Paul Isherwood. This desktop bust of founder Christopher Columbus has been awarded over 60 times to Fourth Degree Sir Knights who have continued the proud service and dedication to parish, community, and the Knights of Columbus.

The Patriotic Degree of the Order is strong and viable... our Assembly is strong and viable. With over three hundred members we are a force for what is right. But several of our 14 Member Councils are alone over 300 strong... why are there so many Brother Knights that have not made the journey to 4th Degree? While you will often hear the cost of the Regalia as a detriment, Regalia and being a part of the Color Corps is NOT a requirement to be a Fourth Degree Sir Knight. As I said earlier, we need to get them in and then as Councils and the Assembly we need to help them ‘acquire’ Regalia even of just borrowed. What kid wants to get into a pick-up baseball game by ‘using’ someone else’s glove and then strives to get their own? We need to set the inventive... we need to be able to show a reason to want to be part of the 4th Degree.

Well, the Blue Mass is rapidly approaching. Flyers are being posted at the member churches, invitations are being sent. Along with that we should be inviting our Brother Knights to lend a hand at the mass ad reception afterwards. Let them see and get a taste... but if we don't ask, they won't come.

Our **Faithful Navigator Greg Verbick** opened another meeting of the Assembly with a good crowd of Sir Knights. We were called to order, Prayers said, the salute to the flag was made, and we began as we always do... pomp and circumstances are as much a part of the opening of the Fourth Degree Meeting as the banner displayed. The main emphasis of the meeting has been the Blue Mass... now just weeks away. The committee that has been assembled meets and meets and meets, and fortunately it has been attended by more each time.

The next and last meeting of the Blue Mass committee will be on Monday, April 10th, just three weeks before the event. We **MUST** have everyone on board for this last chance to make this occasion shine. Please be there... if you are your Council's liaison, you need to be there, if you can **CONTRIBUTE**, you need to be there, if you **WANT** be there, **BE THERE!**... at Elizabeth Ann Seaton in Crystal Lake. Call the **FN** for details at (224) 243-0822, or an e-mail at gregory.verbick1@gmail.com He will gladly answer your questions!

Please with renewed effort remember that the April 4th Degree Exemplification has been rescheduled to May 20th, to be held in Oak Brook. So, for us, a little more time to recruit some new Sir Knights for our Assembly! We did have several Form 4s read for both a new and a transfer member. As I said last month, why not all of us get a recruit or two this year and see if we can reach 400 members? If you have Brother Knights who have not yet attained 3rd Degree, ask us as there will be opportunities available.

The latest Confirmation Call-Out list shows another 6 scheduled Confirmation now through June. They are listed on the Website as soon as the Faithful Captain gets them.

The March Business meeting minutes are about to be posted and sent... and they will be on the website... check them out... go and look and see what we are doing and maybe learn something more about the Assembly!

Vivat Jesus,

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