

**Pope John Paul II  
Assembly #2914**

JUNE 2024

**PJP II Assembly  
#2914**

District 31

Our Lady of Hope Catholic  
Church

St. Thomas More Room

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

Holy Family

Council #6831

Leesburg, VA

St. Francis de Sales

Council #11136

Purcellville, VA

Our Lady of Hope

Council #12791

Potomac Falls, VA

# PIETATEM

## NEWSLETTER



### Firecrackers of Faith on the Fourth

By SK Jay Tippett, Faithful Navigator



Brother Knights,

For us, members of the Knights of Columbus, Patriotism and Faith go hand in hand. As we celebrate our country's Independence Day with family and friends this July 4, we should not forget that our American liberty is a blessing from God.

Samuel Adams, one of the fathers of the American Revolution, was bold in proclaiming his faith. To him, signing the Declaration of Independence meant no longer submitting to Great Britain, but rather submitting to our Lord.

Because of our freedom, we can express our faith and boldly share it with others. It is important to recognize that in many other parts of the world, this is not the case. The cost of following Christ is much greater for our brothers and sisters across the globe.

With this in mind, I encourage you to not lose sight of why we celebrate Independence Day. Take time to reflect on the ways God has blessed you in your life. Make it a goal to not take the freedom we have for granted. As you spend this day with family and friends, I encourage you to celebrate the blessing of freedom that was given to us by Christ.

I pray that you and your families have a safe and healthy July 4 and that Our Holy Savior's grace falls upon you and brings you closer together and to Him.

Vivat Jesus!

## FN's Year-End Message

Worthy Sir Knights, I would like to thank each of you for your support during my past year as the FN for the Pope John Paul II Assembly. It was an honor and a privilege to serve in this capacity. I would like to thank all the officers who served this past year and express my deepest gratitude for your generous gift of your time and talent. Our success as an Assembly is a result of your commitment and support.

The 2024/2025 elections are complete, and the majority of the officers have remained on duty and will be repeating their roles as officers for the Assembly. Fr. Killian will again be our Faithful Friar – thank you, Father!

The slate of newly elected officers is as follows:

Faithful Navigator - SK Jay Tippett  
 Faithful Captain - SK Eddie Castaneda  
 Faithful Pilot - SK Kevin O'Connor  
 Faithful Admiral - SK Bob Neiman  
 Faithful Comptroller - SK John Sliwinski  
 Faithful Purser - SK Ric James  
 Faithful Scribe - SK Jim Ryan  
 Faithful Inner Sentinel - SK Bill Leake  
 Faithful Outer Sentinel - SK Tom Duncan  
 3 Year Trustee - SK Tom Hohn  
 2 Year Trustee - SK Joe Hunter  
 1 Year Trustee - SK Bob Fay



I am honored and humbled for the opportunity to repeat a second term as your Faithful Navigator. I enjoy being part of this great patriotic degree and it is my desire to communicate a clear message to all that we need every Sir Knight's participation in our ongoing support of Mother Church and our Assembly. Going forward, we face many challenges in making our Assembly thrive and be relevant.

I see these challenges as opportunities. We need to encourage both our new and older Sir Knights to represent our Assembly by attending our meetings, participating in our events, from Masses to funerals.

I plan on visiting our sister councils, Holy Family and St. Francis, to recruit new members for our Assembly. I will need your support to promote our efforts. So I ask each of you brother Knights to reach out to fellow members in your Council. Encourage them to advance to the 2nd

and 3rd degrees and recruit for the next 4th degree exemplification in November.

The one area I would really like to see improved this year is the Color Corps. It's a big part of who we are in the Patriotic Degree. Hopefully our numbers will grow, and we'll be able to participate in a greater number of local and district fallouts.

Thank you all again for helping make this Assembly what it is today. Finally, let us look for creative ways to continue to improve and make a difference in people's lives.

Again, Vivat Jesus!

## A Capital Pilgrimage

By SK James Ryan, Faithful Scribe

“Our National Emmaus Moment” is what the website of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage calls this year's momentous event – referring, of course, to the ongoing large-scale American “road to Emmaus,” a network of designated pilgrimage routes from all over the nation, to converge in Indianapolis in July for the National Eucharistic Congress – the first in 83 years. Other slogans for the event are “Jesus is on the move” and “Walk with Jesus.” How can we resist such calls?



The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage begins its peregrinations in Washington's “Little Rome” after Mass at the National Shrine

The pilgrimage's Eastern Route is called the Seton Route, and commenced in New Haven, Conn., with obviously special significance for us Knights. It passed through the St. Mary Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg, Md. – thus the route's name – and then arrived in Washington the next day, June 8, for the national capital portion.

I was privileged to unofficially represent our parish, council and assembly that day, starting with a Mass at the National Shrine. Highlights from the homily by Father Michael Fuller, general secretary of USCCB, included these observations:

A pilgrimage is an outward journey to stimulate our inner journey. The word “parish” itself means a people on the move, on the way. Let's go deeper in the interior journey of faith.

Amen to that. The Oxford English Dictionary indeed reminds us that one literary definitions of “pilgrim” is that of a person regarded as journeying through life. Of course that would be all of us, in this life, and toward, and in, the life of the world to come. Literal, geographical pilgrimages like this one reflect and reinforce our allegorical and spiritual ones.

The faithful – including many Knights -- processed all over the Brookland neighborhood in Northeast Washington, which is so rich in Catholic sites, institutions and associations that many call it Little Rome or the Little Vatican. We firmly marched, “with the cross of Jesus going on before,” as the song says, along with the Holy Eucharist going on before. We made seven stops, with various observances at each. The seven stations seemed evocative of the seven pilgrimage basilicas in Rome which will be open once again during the upcoming Jubilee Year of 2025.

As the pilgrimage made its progress through this spiritual vicinage, what also progressed was my depth of humble pride at being part of this holy event, and privilege to be a Christian and a Catholic on the march.

People would start spontaneously reciting the Hail Mary and the Credo in English and Spanish, and I joined in with enthusiasm. I observed the many kinds of people from all races and backgrounds sharing their devotion to our Lord Jesus and our faith, and reflected on how well over a billion people all over the globe are united in their fidelity to all this richness. With all that divides people today, what blessed assurance we have in our unity in our faith.

In other words, *E Pluribus Unum* – out of many, one. That's our nation's official motto, and it well fits our world Catholic community as well. Besides, as Fourth Degree Knights, champions of the patriotic elements of our Church, what could be more fitting than flying the flag of our faith in the nation's capital?

Now that's worth marching about!



The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Seton Route begins its journey from our beloved New Haven, Conn., birthplace of the Knights

## Color Corps News for June

By SK Buck Coates, Commander

[Buck.coates@comcast.net](mailto:Buck.coates@comcast.net)

We are making some progress in filling out the Color Corps. I have confirmed that two Knights, Eddie Castaneda and Bill Dwyer, have purchased the new uniform. I have heard that there is a third, but I have not confirmed that.

The goal is to have 10 Color Corps members from our Assembly in each Council. That would provide enough Color Corps SKs to stand the watch for funerals and other functions in each Council's parish.

I am working on developing the Calvert Province schedule that would open up events in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the St. Pope John Paul II Center in Washington D.C. and the annual Sea Service Pilgrimage Mass at the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton on October 6 in Emmitsburg, Md.

These are great events for the Color Corps. You are part of a 50-plus-strong contingent of SKs, and you really feel the fellowship and patriotism of the Color Corps. We would carpool to these long-distance events.

Other upcoming Color Corps support requirements are the "Call for the Crucified Heart" relic program that will be on Sunday, September 22 at St.

John's and September 24 at Our Lady of Hope. There are confirmations at St. John's on October 30 and Our Lady of Hope on November 8. Some upcoming requirements are a flag retirement ceremony, the Columbus Day parade, Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass at OLOH, and the Leesburg Christmas parade.

One of the most important support requirements is to stand the watch for funerals of SKs and families. We could really use some additional manpower for all these events.

To meet the goal of 10 SKs in each Council, it's essential for new members and returning members without the uniform to step up and purchase the uniform. Uniform packages can be purchased at [Knights of Columbus Uniforms | KofC Uniform | Knights of Columbus](#).

One of the more difficult aspects of the new uniform is preparing the beret. Rothco has furnished the berets for the Air Force and many SKs. Here is the link for the inspection-ready beret: [Inspection Ready Black Beret - Military Berets - PriorService.com](#). Make sure you order the beret without the AF flash. You will probably have to copy the link and paste it into your browser.)

As we get more new members we will schedule training at Our Lady of Hope.

## **Installation Dinner to be Held on July 20**

**By Jay Tippett, Faithful Navigator**

Our installation ceremony for our newly elected officers for 2024/2025 will be held Saturday, July 20, immediately following the 5 pm Vigil Mass. Please note that the Vigil Mass is not part of the ceremony and therefore not mandatory. Spouses and observers are invited to attend the ceremony. There will be a reception in the parish hall immediately following the ceremony.

Please contact our Faithful Captain Eddie Castaneda and Faithful Pilot Kevin O'Connor regarding your status as well as the number of people attending the reception. If you cannot attend the ceremony then please refer back to them who will be chosen as your stand-in designate as soon as possible.

The dress code for this ceremony is below. Note: if you have purchased the ORD, that is what you should wear. More details will be made available as we get closer to the date. If you have any questions, please reach out to me.

**Dress Code:** The required dress for the officers/members is the "Official Regalia Dress, Social Uniform" (ORD-SOC) or the "Social Dress Uniform (SDU)" Special Note: If an officer or a stand-in already has purchased the

ORD-SOC, they cannot wear a suit at the installation. However, the SDU is only for those SKs who have not purchased the ORD-SOC. Please ensure that your officers/members are fully aware of these uniform requirements. The PG-113 Fourth Degree Pin is the only authorized pin. Members may also wear their miniature medals and jewels of current Third or Fourth Degree Offices.

# PIETATEM

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Opinions expressed in Pietatem are those of the individual contributions and do not necessarily reflect those of PJPII Assembly, the Faithful Navigator, or the Officers of the Assembly.

Assembly Officers (2022-2023)

Faithful Friar.....Father Killian

Faithful Navigator.....Jay Tippett

Faithful Admiral.....Bob Neiman

Faithful Captain.....Eddie Castaneda

Faithful Pilot.....Kevin O’Connor

Faithful Comptroller.....John Sliwinski

Faithful Purser.....Ric James

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