

A very special thanks goes out to the Color Corps and members of Archbishop Keough Council # 5263 for the excellent display of devotion and dedication to our Special Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose. Our Lady of the Fields (OLOF) is nestled in the beautiful farm lands of Millersville. Well on Sunday October 25, 2015, OLOF was join by another Beautiful Flower—"The Silver Rose of Our Lady of Guadalupe".

The ADM Benson Color Corp with flawless precision delivered the Silver Rose to its proper place in front of the alter. They stood guard during the entire Chaplet and they ensured the Rose was properly handled by the participants. An ample supply of cleaned white gloves were made available for those who wish to touch the Rose.

The Worthy Color Corp Commander, SK Mike Thompson commanded his team of Colors consisting of: SK Jeff Wilk, SK Steve Andrzejewski, and SK R. C. Fisher with that of honor guard exactitude.

SK and GK Lou Diaz and the Rev. Mr. Mark Loepker were the main participants during the ceremony.

The Rose made its way from NJ to MD by way of Canada. Archbishop Keough Council #5263 has hosted the Silver Rose in years past.

The Silver Rose program began in 1960 as an initiative of the Columbian Squires, the youth program of the Knights of Columbus. In the mid-1990s, the program was adopted as a Supreme Council program which grew to encompass routes for three silver roses. Last year, five silver roses made their way across North America.

This year, six silver roses traveled from Canada to Mexico to symbolize unity among the peoples in the Americas. The rose is also a symbol of the pro-life movement, which recognizes Our Lady of Guadalupe as its patroness.

The roses began their journey in Canada in May, and for six months were carried by Knights of Columbus throughout the western, central and eastern corridors of North America. The journey will conclude on December 12, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, at the basilica bearing that name in Mexico City. The roses were presented before an image of Our Lady.

The Silver Rose program is replete with symbolism. The seven guides carrying the roses represent the sacraments of the Catholic faith and the ways to approach God. The thorns represent all the efforts and sacrifices of the Columbian Squires and Knights of Columbus along the way. Lastly, the strong stem represents faith.

In 2001, Supreme Knight Anderson dedicated the Order to Our Lady of Guadalupe. Since that time, the Order has organized and supported numerous spiritual initiatives and academic conferences to promote devotion to the Virgin of Guadalupe.

R. C. Fisher, FN