



Knights of Columbus
FOURTH
DEGREE
Patriotic degree of the Order.



Next Exemplifications:

February 15, 2020
 Birmingham, AL; Baton Rouge, LA;
 Hendersonville, TN
 February 23, 2020 Hot Springs, AR

Bienville Province Newsletter

REPORT FROM VICE-SUPREME MASTER MICHAEL J. PORTER February 2020
VOLUME 27

Worthy District Masters,

Congratulations on bringing our Province to **#3** (27.46%) in the Order this month! We trail the Ferdinand Megellan Province in the Philippines (46.99%), and the Fr. McGivney Province that covers our Military bases and overseas Assemblies led by our Supreme Master (34.72%). We must take advantage of the new ceremonial to bring in every new member that joins a Council in our Districts. I outlined how we can do that last month. Please discuss this with your State Deputy and let's all hit 100% by the end of the fraternal year.

Please send me your outlines for your updated recruitment program and additional Exemplifications as soon as they are completed.

You should have your Biennial meeting plan mostly completed. Please send me your agenda as soon as it is done. You also need to prepare to accept resolutions from your assemblies and collect three names for District Master, along with the nomination forms. An email and/or letter should be sent to the Faithful Navigators at once, if you have not already done so, asking for this information and you supplying them with the forms and guidance to help them fulfill your request.

Fraternally,

Mike

Michael J. Porter
 Vice Supreme Master
 Bienville Province

EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP:

A Leader is one who:

***Knows the Way**

***Goes the Way**

&

***Shows the Way!**

John C. Maxwell



What's Happening Around the Province

Alabama-The Supply Room Update

Pete Parrish - District Master

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS UNIFORM PROGRAM MANAGED BY THE SUPPLY ROOM

The Supply Room is a small Veteran-owned business located in Oxford, Alabama. We have been in business for over 37 years serving all branches of our armed forces. Most of the Government agencies who started with us 37 years ago are still our largest customers today. The owner of the Company is a Former Army Officer and I am a Retired Navy E9/CWO. Both the owner and I understand specifications, quality control and paying attention to the details. These qualities are what has kept the Supply Room at the top of a highly competitive industry, and it will also serve us well as we work toward building a first-class Knights of Columbus program. We took possession of the existing uniforms during the first two or three days of December. Our first step was to measure every garment to be sure the size label was accurate before we placed it into stock. By doing this timely and costly evaluation and by asking the right questions when the customers place their orders, we have pretty much eliminated the rejects or returns. We are now in the process of dyeing fabric and sewing our products and will have most every product on our shelves in the April/May timeframe.

Here are the actions we have taken to improve each item: **Blazer** We will have two models of the blazer, the traditional fit and what we are calling our executive fit. Both models will be made from a tried and tested pattern which have been used to make hundreds of thousands of commercial blazers over the years. The fit and style has been battle tested. The Traditional cut is for those who still have a chest and waist in proportion. We will have sizes from 32 XX-Short to 72 X Long, so we can fit most anyone. The Executive cut (Portly) is for those who need a little more coat around the stomach so it can be buttoned. This will allow us to fit you properly over the back and shoulders and still take care of the buttoning issue.

Trousers We found the trousers to be this biggest problem from the past and we have taken the necessary action to correct this problem. We have also used a tried and tested pattern for the trousers to provide plenty of room in the thigh, seat and leg. We also have added a concealed stretch waistband to provide 2 to 3 inches of ease above and beyond the waist size. If you wear a 34, these pants will fit you even if you are a 35 or even 36-inch waist.

Beret We heard a lot of stories about the beret and how it fit or didn't fit. Many said it looked like a "beanie" and just sat on the top of the head. Our military experience kicked in and we took the style we make for the Special Forces which would fit properly and allow the drape to extend over the right ear. Removed the lining, trimmed it in a top-quality leather and used a fine Australian wool. From the feedback we have received, this has solved the problems. We supplied the Color Guard at the Kellenberg Assembly up in New York State who refused to wear the old style and according to Rob Timmerman, the Color Guard members now love it.

Tie Not a lot of complaints about the tie other than the Long was not long enough, so we have added an extra-long which is 64 inches and should fit the tallest member.

OPTIONAL ITEMS We were asked if we could offer, as an option, a white shirt, a black oxford shoe and an overcoat. We can, and we have provided prototypes of each for approval.

White Shirt We will be offering a 100% cotton, no-iron white shirt with exact sleeve lengths. We will stock sizes from a 13" neck and 28" sleeves to a 23" neck and 37" sleeve. This should fit most every need. Shirts are like the blazers; some need more room in the stomach area, and we have addressed this.



What's Happening Around the Province – cont'd

We will have an executive cut/style for those who need this extra room. We will have these available around April and they will be favorably priced for this quality and features. Once approved, they will be available on our website www.kofcuniform.com or toll-free number 833-562-4327.

Black Oxford Shoes We will have these shoes ready for sale in late March early April. We have used a top grain cowhide and the inside of the shoe is lined with a soft leather. From the feedback we have received from test wears this is one comfortable shoe.

Overcoat There are some areas in America where an overcoat is needed in the wintertime. We have developed a 19 oz., 100% wool, mid-calf coat with a heavy satin lining. The coat will be water resistant as well. The coat will have epaulets on the shoulders for the Baldrick to go under and the gold K of C buttons. This coat is currently being test worn and if it is accepted as it is, we will have these available before the winter ends, especially in the northern part of the country.

In summary, we at the Supply Room feel blessed to have been given the responsibility to provide the 4th Degree Knights with a complete uniform with the highest quality in materials and workmanship. We have accepted this challenge and we think we are well on our way to meet all the objectives set before us. Let me assure everyone, we take this seriously and we will work hard to earn the respect and trust of each member. You will receive professional and courteous service from the moment you call us. We have a team of skilled ladies accepting your calls and, if they cannot answer your questions, they give the call to me. We are also receptive to your comments and/or suggestions as to how we can improve. We must always get any changes approved by the Supreme Headquarters; but, trust me, Headquarters wants the best possible program and they are trusting us to get it right. I hope these answers most of your questions. If not, let me know and I will do my best to do so. God Bless, Jim Craig The Supply Room 334-863-1674 cell 800-458-5180 Ext: 168

Arkansas – 18 New Members

Jeff Priore – District Master

On January 25, 2020, in Ft. Smith Arkansas, District Master Jeff Priore brought in 18 new Sir Knights. **He is also days away from finalizing his new Assembly in Rogers, AR**





What's Happening Around the Province

Louisiana – Right to Life March - Assembly #336


Don Ducote - District Master

With beautiful skies and a coolness in the air, Brother Sir Knights from around the area lead the Louisiana Life March South in Baton Rouge. Sir Knight David Neal, Mike Rodrigue and Faithful Navigator Lynn Foret along with Color Corp Commander Dean Matherne from E.D. White Assembly in Thibodaux (pictured left) represented the Houma-Thibodaux Diocese.





Mississippi – 11 New Members on January 25

Jerry Schmuck - District Master



Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Exemplification
Honoring Sir Knight Leonard L. Temple
Hosted by Our Lady Queen of Peace Assembly 3081 Olive Branch, MS
State Master Gerald Schmuck, District Marshal Leonard L. Temple
Faithful Navigator William Horne
January 25th, 2020
Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Olive Branch, MS





New Uniform Orders

New Price \$449.00

Uniforms can be ordered at: kofcuniform.com or 833/562-4327.
The Supply Room customer service department will be able to assist with questions regarding uniforms ordered from the previous fulfillment company.

Star Assembly Award 2019-2020

Make sure your Assemblies plan to earn the Star Assembly Award for this fraternal year. As a reminder, here are the requirements for this Award.

- Publish and distribute to the Assembly membership a minimum of six Assembly Newsletters during the 2019-2020 fraternal year. A copy of each newsletter must also be sent (either in print or electronically) to the Vice Supreme Master at MJPKNIGHT9282@AOL.COM.
- Meet the Assembly's membership goal with a net gain of 10% additions over deletions.
- Complete and submit the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728), which is due January 31, 2020.
- Complete and submit to your District Master by April 30, 2020 the "To Be a Patriot Award" application.
- Earn the Civic Award by conducting a minimum of four patriotic programs during the 2019-2020 fraternal year and reporting those programs to the Supreme Master by June 30, 2020 on the "Civic Award" application.
- Complete and submit the "Report of Officers Chosen for the Term" (#186).



4th-Degree Training Module #27 – Training from the Ground Up

Worthy District Masters, we will restart our training modules from the ground up. The best place to start with new members and in the retraining of current members is to remind everyone of the basics. Here is step Five:

Liturgical Processions

The Fourth Degree Color Corps precedes the liturgical procession of the ordinarily functioning as liturgical ministers. The role of the Fourth Degree Honor Guard, then is simple and straightforward; it is a ceremonial Honor Guard. The ultimate goal is to “add dignity to the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy and to display pride for the religious freedom, a gift from God bestowed upon our Church and country.”

At major liturgical events, the following protocol is to be followed by Color Corps, unless determined otherwise by either the Ordinary for all cases or the celebrant of the Mass for that particular case.

1. The Honor Guard precedes the liturgical procession, followed by the Cross and Candles, both to and from the sanctuary (i.e., at the processional and recessional).
2. The liturgical procession has its own principle of ordering the ministers from “lowest to highest.” This is not, however, the ordering principle of the Honor Guard. Rather, the Honor Guard orders itself from “highest to lowest” after the Master of the District and Marshal, (if present) Assembly Faithful Navigator and the Color Corp Commander who directs the guard.
3. Upon processing to the sanctuary, the members of the Honor Guard—ordered from highest to lowest—take their positions at the ends of the pews in order for the liturgical procession to pass through.
4. Upon receiving the command, the members of the Honor Guard either take their seats at the end of each pew (one man per pew), or process across the front of the Church and circle to the back.
5. At the time of Holy Communion, the members of the Honor Guard approach in the manner determined in the Color Corps Drill Manual.
6. At the recessional, and upon the appropriate signal, the Honor Guard either steps aside from the pews or approaches from the back of the Church to line the aisle. Upon the signal of the leader, the Honor Guard recesses from the Church in the usual manner, preceding the liturgical procession.
7. Should it be determined by the Ordinary or the celebrant, or if particular circumstances demand, that the honor Guard will not precede the liturgical procession in the recessional, the norms of the Color Corps Drill Manual will be followed.



Bienville Province New Assembly Goals

2019-2020

District	New Assembly locations	Established Y/N
Alabama	Tuscaloosa, AL	Paperwork submitted
Arkansas	Rogers, AR	Working- February
Louisiana	Luling, LA	Working - March
Mississippi	Waveland, MS	ASSEMBLY #3837
Tennessee	Nashville, TN (Catholic Pastoral Center)	Working - March
Totals	Goal: 5	YTD: 1

Send me your new Assembly paperwork as soon as it is completed.

Our Supreme Master has asked us for one (1) new Assembly each fraternal year. We have plans in place to establish new Assemblies in the above-mentioned locations for this fraternal year.

As you work toward your goal, please look to next year and have your next location ready to start in July of next year.

2019-2020 New Assembly goals should be met, and paperwork submitted no later than February 2020.



Provincial Membership Goals

Here are the current membership numbers from Supreme as of February 1, 2020.

District	Membership Goal	YTD new members
Alabama	170 (134) 21%	36
Arkansas	138 (88) 36%	50
Louisiana	363 (232) 36%	131
Mississippi	129 (83) 35%	46
Tennessee	237 (215) 9%	22
Totals	1,038 (780) 27.46%	285

Percentage of Provincial Goal reached: 27.46%

Remember to send your paperwork to Supreme as soon as your Exemplifications are completed.

Our goal by March 1st is to be over 35% of our quota.

Arkansas and Louisiana are still leading the Province, with Mississippi nipping at your heels.

Way to go, Don, Jeff, and Jerry! Great job!



Assemblies with 100%+ In Membership This Year

Alabama - #2051-Gadsden 100%, #2527-Tuscaloosa 416%,
#3419-Tuscaloosa 100%

Arkansas - #28-Texarkana 900%, #1426 -Jonesboro 180%,
#2351 - El Dorado 133%, #3084 - Charleston 116%

Louisiana - #315 Lafayette 157%, #2047 New Roads 133%,
#2182 Deridder 233%, #2801 Albany 100%

Mississippi - #2131 - Tupelo 350%, #2347 – Gulfport 100%,
#3464 – Kiln 250%, #3826 - Pearl 100%

Tennessee -

All Assemblies in green have doubled PLUS their membership goal for this year!

*Find out what these Assemblies are doing to succeed!
Then share it with all of the Assemblies in your District.*



FORMS PAGE

Here is a list of the Supreme- and Province-required forms, and when they are due. When completed, check the box so you know you're on track. Please send all forms to your District Master and copy me at MJPKNIGHT9282@AOL.COM.

FORM Supreme Form - Province Form	DUE DATE	COMPLETED? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monthly Newsletter (Star Assembly Award)	Monthly	✓
#1728 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity	January 31	✓
#TBP-1 To Be a Patriot Award	April 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
#990 Tax Report EZ - Due Date depends on Year End	May 15 -- November 15	✓
#2321 Civic Award	June 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
#186 Report of Chosen Officers	June 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
#1315 Annual Assembly Audit Report	August 1	✓
Sir Knight of the Year Award	July 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family of the Year Award	July 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assembly of the Year Award	July 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clergy of the Year Award	July 30	<input type="checkbox"/>



Upcoming Bienville Province Exemplifications

Here is a list of the Exemplifications in the Province coming up for this fraternal year.

March 21, 2020	Ocean Springs, MS
March 28, 2020	Conway, AR

Fraternally,

Michael J. Porter
Vice Supreme Master
Bienville Province
615/308-6777