



Knights of Columbus  
**F O U R T H**  
**D E G R E E**  
*Patriotic degree of the Order.*

**Msgr. Francis L. Sampson Assembly**  
**Cedar Rapids, Iowa**  
**JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 2014**

*From the Faithful Navigator*

**Sir Knights:**

I wish a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your families. It is the “most wonderful time of the year”. I hope that each of you had warm and pleasant gatherings with family and friends. Please don't forget our Holy Days Assembly party with Sunday afternoon, January 5 at the St. Jude Parish Center at 5PM. This event is always a lot of fun.

It is really hard to believe that our Fraternal Year is half over! On the positive side, we still have a lot of events on our schedule. Further on in the newsletter will be announcements about usual activities. I want to take a few moments to talk about a new one.

Back in the fall, I received two different communications as your Faithful Navigator concerning the same subject. These letters came from the Supreme Master and the District Master asking the Fourth Degree to support an area of great concern, priest shortages in the military services. About the same time I received another message, this one from the Archbishop of the Military Services. All of these communications dealt with the shortage of military chaplains to administer the sacraments to military personnel.

Now normally, I would propose at a business meeting that we review our Assembly finances to see if we could make some financial commitment to this worthy project. However, the repetition of the plea motivated me to see if we could do something more. This Assembly is named after a decorated military chaplain. No let me rephrase that; a *decorated, POW, and eventually Chief of Military Chaplains*. Assemblies do not normally do fund raising activities. Our local Councils do much and deserve us as members to assist in their efforts. Due to the worthiness of the project and to honor the namesake of our Assembly, we will conduct a pancake breakfast fundraiser in February at St. Jude.

I know this will be a great success!

Fraternally,

Nick Volk, FN

### **Membership**

Faithful Comptroller Russ Stocker has mailed out the 2014 dues notices last week. Please make payment as soon as you can. A reminder to all gentlemen Sir Knights; that payment of your 4<sup>th</sup> Degree dues is a conditional membership **provided your 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Council dues are current**. Please remit your Council dues timely to your Financial Secretary and take care of this

## Valentine's Day Social

Members are reminded that the next **formal** social will be our Valentine's Day Party to be held on Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at KC Council #5677 on Hwy 13 and Mt. Vernon Road starting at 5:30PM (Dinner is at 6 PM). This is a joint event with the other two local Assemblies. The final menu and pricing is still being completed with the caterer. More details will follow as soon as confirmed. This is a great chance for Sir Knights to treat your ladies to a very nice dinner. Please also invite any prospective 4<sup>th</sup> Degree candidate and spouse to join us that day.

## Seminarian Scholarship Fund For Military Chaplains

The Assembly will be holding a Pancake Breakfast Benefit for the above cause on Sunday, February 16 at St. Jude Parish Center from 8AM – Noon. [See attached flyer] All net proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund. Your help in working that day or any monetary contribution is appreciated.

## Exemplification

The District Master has confirmed a request to hold a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplification this spring in Cedar Rapids on Saturday, March 15 at St. Pius X Parish. [See attached flyer]. We need to begin recruitment to add to our ranks. Our Assembly goal is eight new members so let's get to work and make this happen. If you need new application forms, please contact the Faithful Navigator or Pilot. The fee is still \$70 and this Assembly does not require any further dues payment for the balance of the year joined.

## UPCOMING CALENDAR

<b>SUN</b>	<b>Jan 5</b>	<b>Assembly Holy Days Party @ 5PM, St. Jude</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>Jan 8</b>	<b>Council #5544 Business Meeting @ 7PM, St. Jude</b>
<b>TUES</b>	<b>Jan 14</b>	<b>Council #11942 Business Meeting 7PM @ John XXIII</b>
<b>TUES</b>	<b>Jan 28</b>	<b>Business Meeting @ 7PM @ John XXIII</b>
<b>TUES</b>	<b>Feb 11</b>	<b>Council #11942 Business Meeting 7PM @ John XXIII</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>Feb 12</b>	<b>Council #5544 Business Meeting 7PM @St. Jude</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>Feb 14</b>	<b>Valentine's Day Dinner Social 6 PM @ Council #5677 Hall</b>
<b>SUN</b>	<b>Feb 16</b>	<b>Pancake Breakfast Benefit 8AM-Noon, St Jude Parish Center</b>

