



Michigan District 2

Knights of Columbus

July 2025

**Next District II
Meeting**

Aug 23rd

TBD



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When asked by my Leadership Team for a theme for this issue, the obvious answer was **“Transitions”**. Consider everything that’s happened in the past six months. Pope Francis passed away on April 21st and Pope Leo XIV was chosen by the Holy Spirit to be our new Holy Father and the first American born pope in history on May 8, 2025.



Prior to that, the transition from the old Fourth Degree Exemplification to the newly “Revised” Exemplification began on Feb. 22, 2025, at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City when the new Exemp was rolled out for the first time in celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the Fourth Degree. On that date, the Supreme Master ordered that all future degrees henceforth, will use the newly created script, music and slide show. So our MI District 2 Degree Team is now working to make it happen at our upcoming Exemp.

His Excellency, Bishop Emeritus Carl Mengeling made his transition to eternal life on July 1st, and eight Lansing Assemblies and our District Leadership Team were present for his visitations and funeral services from July 8 – 10th at St. Gerard Parish and St. Mary Cathedral in Lansing. Bishop Boyea and the Diocesan Staff had particular praise for the 4th Degree Honor Guard members who were present, saying that we added a special dignity and importance to the ceremonies through our presence. Special thanks to all of the Honor Guard members from the Lansing Diocese who turned out to dignify a great Bishop and a great man!

The leadership of MI District 2 is also in transition, as the end of my fifth year as Master comes to an end on September 1, 2025, and we are awaiting the word from Supreme Master Michael McCusker on the appointment of our next Master; PFN/FDD Benedict Dandrow. Ben has a great deal of practical experience as a former manager in the manufacturing field and has obtained years K of C leadership experience as a District Deputy and a Faithful Navigator. He is also the Chairman of the St. Francis Camp on the Lake Board of Directors (a summer camp for people with Developmental Disabilities), and he and his wife Lady Sandy live 12 miles west of me in Grass Lake, MI. This geographic closeness will help to make our leadership transition go smoothly down the road.

The final “transition” is the change in Assembly leadership, as I thank our outgoing Navigators for their work, and welcome the Class of 2025 who received their Navigator training June 28th.

Assembly	Location	Outgoing	Incoming
Cardinal O’Hara #0489	Ann Arbor	FN Andy Toma	FN Jeffrey Kerner
Bishop Albers #0496	Lansing	FN James Martellini	FN Phil Schertzing
Fr. Sadlier #505	Battle Creek	FN Brian Wemple	FN David Censke
Bishop Donovan #513	Kalamazoo	FN Dale Boone	FN Stephen Lewis
Paw Paw #522	Paw Paw	FN Mike Austermann	FN Dennis Uhlir
Fr. Godez #1509	Westphalia	FN Bill Vallier	FN Brent Pohl
Fenton #2031	Fenton	FN Mike Archambault	FN Joseph Cylkowski
Jackson #2186	Jackson	FN Ben Dandrow	FN Timothy Hill
St. Joseph #2211	Flushing	FN Fr. James Batcha	FN Nicholas Ellavich
Bishop Povish #2815	Charlotte	FN George Wygant	FN James Wyszynski
St. Francis #2982	Dewitt	FN Jeffrey Archer	FN FM David Buick
St. John XXIII #3542	Buchanan	FN Carl Kent	FN Daniel Dahman



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Life's Transitions

There are transitions in our lives all the time. Some are planned and scheduled, like graduations and weddings. Others are beyond our control, like birth and death. Somewhere in-between are events that impact our lives personally.



Transitions are inevitable. Our lives are active and vibrant. Being Knights, we have so many chances to more fully engage our lives with our Faith. Reflect on the numerous times that you have been called upon to go the extra mile and respond. It is our Faith in Jesus and our response as Knights that makes a difference. Most of these times are not recorded and even go unnoticed and unrecognized. Yet, we respond because of our Lord.

As our Worthy Master concludes his fifth year and our District prepares for a new administration, it is a moment of gratitude for the successes since 2020 and anticipate challenges and new opportunities. Join me in thanking Joseph Yekulis for his tireless service for District 2. Furthermore, let us offer our support for his successor, Ben Dandrow. Being the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus is always an adventure in Faith.

Whenever we mark anniversaries and other life events, it is something that we can all be proud of collectively. Blessings on these summer days and let us look forward to future times of faith in action.



Very Rev. Robert F. Creagan, KCHS
District Friar, Diocese of Kalamazoo



Ladies,

I can't believe it has been 5 years since I started on this journey with each of you. We have met some incredible speakers; have met amazing women in executive positions; learned how a pilgrimage does not mean you have to travel to another country; learned about multiple veterans organizations and how we can continue to support our veterans; and we also learned if Adam had given Eve a tour of Eden she may not have listened to the snake and eaten the apple. Together, we have done a lot.

We are part of the Patriotic Degree. What can we continue to do for our veterans? There are over 300 veterans organizations in the State of Michigan. Work with the other Ladies in your Assembly and choose an organization. Learn what their needs are and plan a way to fulfill those needs. Our veterans more than deserve it.

We also need to continue to support each other. Our own Deb Loader wrote an article in the Women 2 Women magazine and was featured on the cover. The full article is about the gift of sisterhood. Here is an excerpt from the article.

"There is nothing more powerful than women celebrating women. Powerful women celebrate each other, witness each other's dreams, and stand in protection of one another - against all enemies, predators, attackers, and odds. Let's celebrate the Gift of Sisterhood!"

Thank you for all you have done and for your constant support.
God Bless, Lady Denise Yekulis



Lady Denise Yekulis



Masters Update

The past six months contained many big events and services, and here are the highlights:

January 26th, Williamston – Corporate Communication Mass for the transfer of 18 members from the Howell Assembly to Lansing Assembly #3334.

Feb. 13th, Davison – Seminarian Fundraising Dinner

Feb. 15th, Flint – State Bowling Tournament Opening Ceremonies

March 18th, Detroit – Installation of Archbishop Weisenburg

March 22nd – Ypsilanti/EMU – Lansing Diocesan Men’s Conference

April 3rd – St. Jude Dewitt – Funeral of Degree Team Member Patrick Donlon

April 26th – St. Philip Battle Creek – 90th Exemplification of MI District 2 (59 new members)

May 22nd – Mackinac Island State Convention – Masses and Living Rosary

May 31st – St. Augustine Cathedral – Priest Ordination - Kalamazoo

June 14th – St. Thomas Aquinas – Priest Ordination – Lansing

June 21st – Lugnuts’ Stadium Lansing – Corpus Christi Mass & Procession

July 10th – St. Mary Cathedral Lansing – Funeral Mass for Bishop Emeritus Mengeling

The dates for our upcoming events will be published in our District calendar format, including the Vocations Night at Lugnut’s Stadium, MI District 2 Officer Installations, Statewide Sporting Events, Fundraising Events, the Priest Exemplification and the newly “Revised” Exemplification in October.

On July 21st and July 23rd, Supreme is offering two special training programs for the 4th Degree. The first program will be for Faithful Navigators, and the second will be for Assembly Officers. I hope you can find the time to participate in this training, and I will send out the links to all of you in a separate email.

In conclusion, I want you all to know what a great joy and honor it has been to serve you as Master of the District during the past five years. In looking back at all of the positions I’ve held after being a Grand Knight many years ago, this has been the most fun and the most rewarding. Thank you to Lady Denise and our Leadership Team for all for your support, as I couldn’t have done this without you. And thanks to the rest of you for helping to “Restore the Corps,” and for making MI District 2 the best District in the Fr. Hennepin Province, if not the Order of the Knights of Columbus. God bless you all, and May God Bless America!

MFD Joseph Yekulis,
District 2



By way of introduction, my name is Ben Dandrow, and I am currently the Executive Assistant to District 2 Master Joe Yekulis. The plan is for me to succeed Joe on September 1st who has served as District Master for five years.



Some background information. I was born and raised in Canton, Ohio, the home of the NFL Football Hall of Fame and adopted home and burial site of William McKinly, the 25th [president of the United States](#). I am a cradle Catholic who graduated from Catholic elementary and high schools. I continued my education at St Joseph's College, Rensselaer IN earning a BA degree followed by graduate studies at Miami University Oxford OH.

While attending Miami, I was recruited by National Steel Corporation to work at their Ecorse Michigan Detroit Great Lakes Steel Plant as a Management Technical Operations Trainee. I spent twelve years living in the Downriver communities of Southgate, Riverview and Woodhaven. I was a volunteer firefighter and EMT in Riverview and Woodhaven. I met and married my wonderful wife of forty-four years Sandra while living there. We were married at Sacred Heart Church Dearborn MI. We are parents of Megan who is a mental health professional working in metro Detroit.

My management career in the Steel Industry took me to New Jersey, Columbia SC, Middletown OH, St Louis MO, and East Chicago IN. In 2000 we had an opportunity to return to Michigan which brought us closer to our families in Michigan and Ohio.

From living in many places in different dioceses and worshipping in many churches I developed a great appreciation that it is the Eucharist that binds us together as Catholics. It is Christ's presence in the Eucharist that is central to our being as Christian and Catholics.

In 2000 we moved to Grass Lake MI and joined St John the Evangelist parish in Jackson. We attended a Knights breakfast after Mass our second month in Jackson, and I was asked by a Knight to join the Knights. One month later I went through the First-Degree Exemplification. It was the best decision we made as a family. In 2005 I joined the Fourth Degree.

During my time with the Knights, I have served as:

Chancellor, Warden, Trustee and three years as Grand Knight in Council # 8392 St John the Evangelist, Jackson (2012-2015)

District Deputy MI District #513 (2019- 2025) 2x Star District.

Fourth Degree Trustee, Faithful Pilot, Captain, and Faithful Navigator Jackson Assembly #2186 (2023-2025).

I am a member of the Color Corp.

Executive Assistant to District 2 Master Joseph Yekulis (2024-2025) During this time I have had a great opportunity to shadow our Master Joe which has provided a wonderful opportunity to learn about the District Master position.

I believe very strongly there is a need for the 4th Degree in our Order and our Assemblies are at the heart of the Degree. We need healthy vibrant Assemblies that are recruiting new members. I will be the first to admit that recruiting for the 4th is not easy, but it is not impossible. It does require effort and commitment from the FN and his Development team to recruit new members into their Assemblies by reaching out to their District Deputies and Grand Knights in their councils for time to talk about the Fourth Degree being respectful of the limited time they have in their council meetings. Every Assembly needs effective council liaisons to apprise their councils of the Assembly activities and Exemplifications. I look forward to our Exemplification at Our Lady of Fatima on October 4th when the new Exemplification ceremony will be rolled out.

Thankfully there is a recent resurgence of Patriotism in the United States in 2025. There is no better time to be a member of the Patriotic Arm of the Order as we approach the 250th anniversary of our country in 2026.

Ben Dandrow, Executive Assistant District 2 Michigan



Bill Currie Sr. Marshal

The theme suggested for this newsletter's articles was "Life Transitions." In the world of the Knights of Columbus, July 1, the beginning of the new fraternal year, triggers transitions which open opportunities for individual growth, and growth in our councils and assemblies. Master Joe Yekulis has seen five July 1's during his term of office. He has taken the challenge to grow individually and encourage the assemblies and their Color Corps to grow. With this latest July 1 it will be up to the assembly officers, new and old, to take the challenge by working with their members to grow their assembly and provide services to support our military and veterans, their assigned councils, their members and families, and our priests and bishops.



Speaking of supporting our bishops, Most Reverend SK Carl Mengeling, Bishop Emeritus of Lansing, transitioned this past July 1 to his eternal reward. Master Joe organized various Lansing Diocese assemblies to provide Honor Guard during the three days of visitation and the funeral Mass. The Honor Guard worked hard with short breaks in between postings as four guards were required at the casket at all times. The Honor Guard were up for the task and represented themselves and the Order very well. I received positive comments from Bishop Mengeling's family, priests, Lansing Diocesan staff responsible for organizing the services, and those attending the services.

On a more personal note, July 1 is a significant date in my family. It is the feast day of St. Oliver Plunkett. It was on July 1, 1681, he was martyred. St. Oliver was Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland. He was the last martyr to die in England. The head of St. Oliver is displayed at St. Peter's Church in Drogheda, Ireland. My connection to St. Oliver Plunkett is through my mother, Mary Rose Plunkett. Her cousin from California attended the canonization by Pope Paul VI on October 12, 1975.

Although I picked July 1 as a point for transitions, throughout our life we need to look for the opportunities to transition to a more Christ-like life, which benefit ourselves and others.

Wishing each assembly a great start to the new fraternal year.



SK Bill Currie Senior Marshal



To all my brother Knights and their families, I hope this finds you all doing well as we begin a new fraternal year. I look forward to working with our new District 2 Master, Ben Dandrow, and the challenges of the new Supreme Exemplification. I wish Brother and Master Ben, the best of luck. I will give him my help and support as he takes on this monumental task of leadership.



To brother and current District Master, Joe Yekulis, as you step down from your leadership position that you have held for five years, I wish you and Lady Denise the best of luck. I hope you get some well deserved rest. I thank you brother Joe for all the sacrifices you have made for Michigan District 2 and all of your accomplishments. When you started five years ago, one of your goals was to Restore the Core. You have done just that. You sir, have expressed at past Honor Guard Events, held at the Cathedral in Kalamazoo, that when you first started as District Master, we were lucky to get four to five Honor Guard members for events held there. We now get eighteen to nineteen members attending. This is a true testament to your leadership abilities. I would also like to thank Michigan District 2 Honor Guard Leader, Bill Currie, and his team.

I would also like to thank Lady Denise for all of the help and support you have given to Joe for the last five years. You two are an awesome team! Thank you, Denise for all of your hard work at the Exemplifications, providing amazing programs for the Ladies, traveling to all of the Knights events with Joe, and just plain all of your support to Mi. District 2. Your contributions are much appreciated. God Bless you both.

I myself, am stepping down as Faithful Navigator of Assembly 505, a position that I have held for 4 years. Diocese CCC Dave Censke will take over this position and I look forward to working with him. I am looking forward to doing more at the Battle Creek VA Hospital and am excited that we will be holding a car show on July 16, 2025. This event was set up by DVAVS member Jim Pitsch. Thank you, brother Jim.

I look forward to seeing all of you in the future as we work together on a new Fraternal year. God Bless you all.

Brian Wemple PFN VAVS rep., Kalamazoo Diocese 

Worthy Sir Knights and Ladies:

Vivat Jesus! We recently celebrated Independence Day. A holiday that is rooted in the founding principle of the Fourth Degree, Patriotism. How beautifully patriotic our nation is on this holiday, and then after the fireworks are done, where are the patriots to stand up and defend the principles on which our country was founded? More importantly, where are the Catholic patriots to stand up in defense of our religious liberty, sanctity of human life, and other civil liberties outlined within the Constitution? It is important that we continuously stand up to defend patriotism, and invite our Third Degree brother knights to join us at the next Fourth Degree Exemplification to strengthen our love for patriotism across the Order. This year, we see transition all around us. Transition in the Exemplification format and script. Transition in district leadership. Transition in provincial leadership. Transition in the fraternal year. And, universally, transition in the Catholic Church with the passing of Pope Francis and subsequent election of Pope Leo XIV. Transition is change. Sometimes change is difficult. A popular observation from an Ancient Greek philosopher says, “change is the only constant.” Are we a person that embraces change and views the situation as an optimist and the good that may come with change? Or maybe we tend to focus on parts of change that are not so favorable, drawing comparison to the standard or status quo. I find myself to be a person of the former. In order to navigate our life and trust in the Will of the Father, do we not believe that His Will is good? The transitions that we will encounter this year in the Fourth Degree are but another page in our story of 2025. I believe we have some talented Sir Knights that committed to Michigan District II and are firmly rooted in the principles of the Order. I am confident that we will embrace these transitions and have leaders ready to engage members and grow the Fourth Degree within the Lansing and Kalamazoo Dioceses.



Fraternally,

Kyle Thelen Executive Assistant- Exemplifications



517-290-6689 or thelenkm@yahoo.com

As we begin our 2025-26 Fraternal Year, Master Joe Yekulis, in one of his last words of inspirational advice given to his staff as 4th Degree Master of Lansing District II, encouraged us to write our articles for our new July Newsletter supporting his suggested theme – New Beginnings. Being somewhat introspective by design, I will begin by telling a story. A very special story.

Twenty five years ago, my superiors at DaimlerChrysler decided that I should have a “new beginning” and sent me packing to Kenosha, Wisconsin, for what turned out to be a three year assignment managing the quality from our new engine plants designed to produce “state of the art” aluminum cylinder block v6 engines. Since I’m somewhat biased, I will report that we succeeded. Grin. But moving to Kenosha meant I would be separated from my current friends and family members, all of them having been within acceptable driving distances from me – especially my beloved aging parents living back in Lewiston, Michigan. Still, where there is a will, there is a way and solutions can be found for every adversity or inconvenience and so every five weeks, I traveled back to Michigan for a weekend, to get my next haircut from a favorite hair stylist and especially to visit Dad and Mom. Waiting for me was always a ‘goodie bag’ from Mom and a special package from my Dad – four or five VCS taped weekly episodes of the Sci-Fi show, “Babylon 5”, a “must watch weekly favorite” I was unfortunately not able to view in Wisconsin and which I had come to admire for its epic dialog speeches and philosophical insights into human nature. Those 5 hour monthly car trips to Lewiston for my “Babylon 5 updates” became treasured bonding moments of love between a father and his son. The following is a quote from that show.



‘It was the end of the Earth year 2261, and it was the **dawn of a new age**, for all of us. It was the end of one chapter and the beginning of another. The next 25 years would see great changes, great joy, and great sorrow. Our new Alliance would waver, and crack, but in the end, it would hold. **Because what is built endures, and what is loved endures.** And Babylon 5 endures.’

Our Fourth Degree, after 125 years, is entering into a new age with new customs and new traditional ceremonies. Lansing District II is entering into a new age as well with the transference of the “gold sword and service baldric” from Master Joe Yekulis to his most worthy successor, Master Ben Dandrow.

And yes, this “New Beginning” will have its moments of great joy and sorrow. The joy of learning new skills, meeting new Brother Sir Knights and Honored Ladies of our Order. And certainly, of glorious new Fourth Degree legacies created from a body of work well done. And I’m sure there will be sorrows as beloved friends and Brother Sir Knights move on to other positions or when that day arrives where their loving relatives will receive a Gold Chalice engraved with his name upon it and where they will facilitate one last act of his love and service to his chosen Patriotic Order, his fellow Catholics and to his Savior’s Church.

Even in the best of times and new beginnings, our Patriotic Fourth Degree might “waver and crack” but just as I recall one VCS tape viewed so long ago, in the end, I am certain our **Fourth Degree will hold**. Because what is built – truly built upon solid foundations – endures, and what is loved endures. **And the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus will endure because of our love for it.** Vivat Jesus.

Michael J Babiuk Pride Chairman



Life's Transitions – My Personal Reflections

Several sayings capture the essence of change, emphasizing its inevitability and the need to adapt. The ancient Greek philosopher Heraclitus is credited with the saying, "*The only constant is change-*" After Heraclitus came Socrates with, "*The secret of change is to focus all your energy not on fighting the old, but on **building the new.***" And then, there is the quote from John F. Kennedy, "*Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.*"



As I reflected on the past five years as a Sir Knight, I recall the changes that have occurred and the ones happening, I share the following:

Five years ago, I was deeply concerned. Life as a Sir Knight was changing and it seemed not for the better. The new uniform not only became a reality, it was forced upon existing honor guardsmen. This was done with will little to no apparent regard for the loyalty and dedication of existing Color Corps members. COVID hit and I was forced to accept I could not practice my Religion publicly. I could not attend Mass nor receive the Holy Eucharist. I could no longer perform the acts of charity through my council nor my assembly. I could not even meet with my brother Knights in person.

With those changes, my attitude was one of resignation, "*it is what it is.*" (and I could do nothing about it). Then, more changes happened. COVID restrictions started to lift. Sunday Mass was now live instead of just televised. From a Sunday homily I learned, "*It is what it is, but can be what we make of it.*" It was in that moment I felt the Holy Spirit in me and wanting to change my attitude...to embrace the changes instead of being a victim of them. I decided to transition my attitude from a reactive outlook to a proactive one.

I transitioned my attitude toward the uniform change. I hated the way it was rolled out. Despite that, I decided it was more important to embrace the "*Restore the Corps*" initiative so I could continue to serve at casket watches for my departed Sir Knights. I encouraged my brother Sir Knights to do the same. In that way I became part of the future.

Socrates, "*...**building the new***" became an attitude for not only me but our Assembly as well. We restarted with initiation of our patriotic, "Catholic American Citizen" program, encouraging Sir Knights to be more active in veterans' support and fund-raising efforts. This was extended to our, "Catholic American Citizenship" awards for councils in our Assembly. Over the last five years these new initiatives resulted in our largest Assembly Exemplification Class of 39 members, restoring our Honor guard from 2 to 22 members and the earning the international "To Be A Patriot" Award.

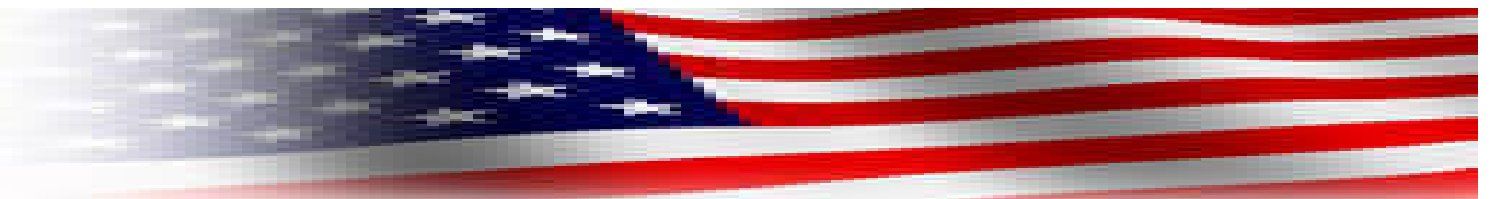
Now it is time to look to the future. We are facing a changing Fourth Degree. We are facing a new Exemplification ritual. Our Exemplifications will be open to all families and friends. They may no longer be all-day, semi-formal events. As with the uniform change, not all the changes will be welcome. Some of the changes will be embraced as over-due.

The Chinese philosopher Lau Tzu understood the nature of change. He wrote, "*New beginnings are often disguised as painful endings.*"

Time and positive attitudes toward the changes will make the difference. Let's embrace the changes and not miss the future.

SK John Yanok PFN, 

VAVS Representative to Ann Arbor VA Medical System



Michigan District II Calendar

MI District 2 Fourth Degree Schedule

July - December 2025

July 1 – Start of 2025-26 Fraternal Year

July 15th – Lansing Diocesan Meeting for 3rd Degree – St. Joseph Shrine Irish Hills

July 17th – Kalamazoo Diocesan Meeting for 3rd Degree – Allegan

July – August – Assembly D2 Leadership Installations Begin

Date	Location	Assemblies	Coordinator
July 29 -	St. Mary Parish, Bronson	Bronson #500 Battle Creek #505	FN Murdock
July 30 -	St. Joseph Shrine Irish Hills	Hudson #1969 Jackson #2186	FN Padley
August 5 -	Good Shepherd, Montrose	Flushing #2211 Burton #510 Fenton #2031 Davison #523 Mt. Morris #524	PFN Pollard
August 13 -	Dexter K of C Hall	Ann Arbor #0489 Howell #2050	FN Kerner
August 19 -	Portland K of C Hall	Westphalia #1509 Dewitt #2982	PFN Vallier
August 20 -	St. Gerard Parish	Lansing #0496 Lansing #3334 Charlotte #2815 Owosso #511	FN Schertzing
August 21 -	St. Mary Visitation, Byron Center	Otsego #2135 Kalamazoo #513 Paw Paw #522	FN Kehr
August 25	St. Bernard Parish Benton Harbor	Benton Harbor #476 Buchanan #3342	FN Bishop

August 1 - Lugnut's Vocations Night – Jackson Field, Lansing

August 1 – Annual Assembly Audit Report #1315 Due to Supreme

August 9 – Comerica Park – K of C Tiger Baseball Night

August 23 – MI District 2 Mtg – Location TBD

September 1 – New MI D2 Master Appointed by Supreme Master

September 13 – Living Rosary at State Capitol

September 24 – Priest Exemplification 5:00 p.m. – Location TBD

October 4, 2025 – 91st Exemplification of MI District 2 – Our Lady of Fatima

Michigan Center, MI – Registration at 11:30 a.m. (See schedule)

November 23 – Ford Field – K of C Detroit Lions Game



91st Exemplification

Please join us in celebrating our *Jubilee Year of the Patriotic Degree* at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Michigan Center to complete your journey into the Fourth Degree this fall. As part of our *125th Anniversary* celebration of the Fourth Degree founded on Feb. 22, 1900, we will be performing the newly revised ceremonial from Supreme that was introduced on Feb. 22, 2025. Our Class Honoree will be *Former Master Joseph Yekulis*, who completes his five-year term of service to MI District 2 on September 1st.



Our Lady of Fatima Parish
Saturday, October 4th, 2025

**A day you will
remember forever.**



Honoring SK Joseph Yekulis
Former Master MI District 2
2020-2025

**Exemplification
held at:**

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish
913 Napoleon Rd.
Michigan Center, Mi 49254**

**- See backside for Registration Info -
Note: There will be no Ladies Program
or luncheon served before the Exemplification**

For more Information Contact :
Your local Assembly Navigator -or-

- SK Benedict Dandrow Master MI District II
(Appointment pending 9/1/25)
517-812-2620 b.dandrow@mikofc.org
- SK Paul Funk Executive Asst. MI D2
248-765-4655 paul@paulsfunk.com
- SK Dave Zerbe Membership Director
517-282-4516 azmaint13@gmail.com
- SK David Censke Kalamazoo Marshal
269-209-3529 censkedavid@gmail.com



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOURTH DEGREE
MICHIGAN DISTRICT II
91st EXEMPLIFICATION
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church
Saturday, October 4, 2025**



HOST ASSEMBLIES: Jackson Area Assembly #2186
FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR: Sir Knight Timothy Hill
CLASS HONOREE: SK Joseph Yekulis, FM
 Master, MI D2 2020-2025
EXEMPLIFICATION LOCATION: Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church
 913 Napoleon Rd.
 Michigan Center, Michigan 49254
Host Hotel: TBD

SATURDAY EVENTS - October 4, 2025		
ARRIVAL		11:30 AM
CANDIDATE REGISTRATION:	OLF Narthex	11:30 - 12:30 PM
NO LUNCHEON OR LADIES PROGRAM		
MASTER'S ADDRESS TO FAMILIES	OLF Fr. Dunne Hall	12:10 - 12:30 PM
CANDIDATE CLASS PICTURE:	OLF Church Altar	12:30 - 12:45 PM
FAMILIES ESCORTED TO CHURCH	OLF Church Sanctuary	12:45 - 1:00 PM
ANTE CHAMBER	OLF Gymnasium	12:45 - 1:00 PM
91ST EXEMPLIFICATION	OLF Church Sanctuary	1:00 - 3:00 PM
WREATH LAYING CEREMONY	OLF Shrine Area	3:00 - 3:45 PM
LINE-UP FOR MASS	OLF Catholic Church	4:00 PM
OLF PARISH MASS	OLF Catholic Church	4:30 PM
RECEPTION	OLF Fr. Dunne Hall	5:30 PM - 6:00 PM
MASTER'S BANQUET	OLF Fr. Dunne Hall	6:30 PM

EXEMPLIFICATION: Now open to families, however tickets are required for Master's Banquet
DRESS FOR LADIES: Sunday Mass Attire or Semi Formal
MEN'S DRESS for the EXEMPLIFICATION and MASTER'S BANQUET: Dark business suit (black, dark blue, dark grey), plain white shirt, dark tie (no bow ties), black socks and black shoes. Current members may still dress in their tuxedo with social baldric.

DRESS CODE: STRICTLY ENFORCED FOR ALL SIR KNIGHTS AND CANDIDATES PRESENT

FEES TO ATTEND EXEMPLIFICATION, LADIES PROGRAM, AND BANQUET	
Candidate: Exemplification, 4th Degree Pin, Banquet	\$70.00
Clergy Candidate (Paid by sponsoring Assembly)	\$50.00
Class Picture - optional, not included with candidate fee	\$10.00
REGISTRATION CONTROL SHEET DUE TO FM DAVID A. BUICK BY SEPT. 26, 2025	
Clergy Member Banquet Ticket	\$35.00
Member, Spouse, Guest, Widow, Extra Banquet Tickets	\$35.00

For Additional Questions Contact:

Sir Knight David Zerbe, District Membership Director at 517-282-4516

Sir Knight Ben Dandrow, Master of MI District II at 517-812-2620

Sir Knight David Censke, Kalamazoo Marshal at 269-209-3529

Sir Knight Joseph Yekulis, Former Master of Michigan District II at 734-368-8469
 (Effective September 1, 2025)

PLEASE MAKE ALL RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS THROUGH YOUR LOCAL ASSEMBLY COMPTROLLER

LET'S HONOR OUR CLASS HONOREE WITH A LARGE CLASS & MEMBER SUPPORT!

Proper 4th Degree Candidate and Member Dress Attire



- Dark Gray, Navy Blue or Black Business Suit, subtle pin stripes acceptable
- Plain White Full Collar or Button Down Collar Shirt, pin striped shirt **“NOT”** acceptable
- Dark Necktie
- Vest optional with business suit
- Black Belt or Suspenders
- Black Socks and **“Polished”** Black Shoes
- Tuxedo Jacket and Pants
- Pleated Full Collar Tuxedo Shirt when worn with a tuxedo, wing tip tuxedo shirt **“NOT”** acceptable
- Preferably Black Studs and Black Cuff Links with tuxedo shirt only, 4th Degree studs are acceptable
- Social Baldric worn over tie
- Official 4th Degree Lapel Pin PG-113 or Flag Pin

Proper Honor/Color Guard Dress Attire



- Official Navy Blue Blazer with 4th Degree Emblem Blazer Crest
- Official 4th Degree Gray Pants, straight leg, **“NO”** cuffs
- Official 4th Degree Necktie, now available in extra long
- Official 4th Degree Black Beret with 4th Degree Metal Badge with appropriate color patch under badge
- Plain Full Collar White Dress Shirt, Button Cuffs (no French cuffs, no button down collar shirt)
- Black Socks and Plain Black **“Polished”** Shoes
- Official 4th Degree Lapel Pin PG-113
- Incumbent Medal of Office
- Past and Former miniature medals above left pocket
- Service Baldric and Sword
- White Gloves
- Name badge **“ARE NOT”** to be worn at any time, during or after an event
- “The Supply Room” Top Coat
 - Pins, only the PG-113 pin shall be worn on the top coat lapel at the buttonhole.
 - Absolutely no service medals will be worn on the top coat. Medals are reserved for wear only on the uniform jacket.



Knights of Columbus

Fourth Degree
Michigan District II

Ben Dandrow, Master
517-812-2620 dd513@mikofc.org

91st Exemplification



ADVERTISING AGREEMENT

Date: _____, 2025

I hereby agree to purchase the following advertisement from the Patriotic Degree Knights of Columbus of Michigan District II, to appear in their souvenir book for the Patriotic Degree Exemplification to be held in Michigan Center, Michigan on October 4th, 2025.

Ad size: (Please check one)

Red, White & Blue Event Poster & Full Page Ad	Price \$250.00 _____
Inside Front/Inside Back Cover (Color)	Price \$175.00 _____
Full Page (7-1/2" x 10")	Price \$100.00 _____
Three-quarter Page (7-1/2" x 7-1/2")	Price \$80.00 _____
One Half Page (7-1/2" x 5")	Price \$60.00 _____
One Fourth Page (3-3/4" x 5")	Price \$40.00 _____

Red, Wht. & Blue Sponsors will be displayed on lg. poster during the event with a full-page ad in the souvenir booklet. Inside covers are first payment received basis, other requests will be converted to a full-page ad.

E-MAIL (preferred) your ads in a PDF, jpeg, Word, or Publisher format to SK Kyle Thelen at: thelenkm@yahoo.com.

If hard copy, paperclip (do not staple) the camera-ready ad or photos to this form and (snail) MAIL to:

Sir Knight Kyle Thelen
7861 Wright Rd.
Westphalia, MI 48894
517-290-6689

All photos will be returned upon request with self-addressed stamped envelope only.

AD DEADLINE IS SATURDAY, Sept 20th 2025

Seller may be contacted if there are questions concerning the ad, please complete seller information.

Advertiser _____

K.C. Seller Name & Phone # (Print)

Address _____

Assembly Name & Number # (Print)

City/Zip _____

Make all Checks payable to: Knights of Columbus

Advertiser's Contact Name

Contact Phone #

Paid Cash (or) Check No.

-----CUT OFF HERE-----

OFFICIAL RECEIPT:

We Thank You for Your Support

Patriotic Degree Knights of Columbus, Michigan District II

Received the amount of \$ _____ for a _____ size ad from _____

Advertiser for the Souvenir book for the 91st Exemplification.

Signature of Seller

Date Signed



**In Service to
Church, Country,
and the Order..**





Michigan District II
830 N. Main St.
Chelsea, Mi 48118

Knights of Columbus
Hennepin Province

This Newsletter is published to our Website at www.michigandistrict2.org
Please contact SK Ken Watterson at aarrdy@sbcglobal.net if you have any problems

Knights of Columbus 4th Degree



**Michigan
District 2**



Contact Information

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Exemplification Assistant	Sir Knight Kyle Thelen 517-290-6689	thelenkm@yahoo.com
Communications:	Sir Knight Ken Watterson 317-881-0812	aarrdy@sbcglobal.net

For all other questions: >> after addressing them with your Faithful Navigator <<
Master Sir Knight Joe Yekulis 734-368-8469 joeyekulis@gmail.com

Our NEXT District II Meeting

August 23, 2025

TBD