Michael A. Allen, PSD
South Carolina District Master

Knights of Columbus
South Carolina District
De Soto Province
Fourth Degree

Phone: Cell (803) 397-7803
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July 30, 2026

My Brother Knight,

As our nation celebrates the 250th Anniversary of its founding, we are reminded that authentic patriotism is not measured by politics or partisanship, but by our commitment to truth, charity, justice, and the common good. Archbishop William E. Lori, in his pastoral letter *In Charity & Truth*, reminds us that our public witness as Catholics must always be rooted in the Gospel, where charity and truth are inseparable, and where faithful citizenship begins with faithful discipleship.

The Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree calls every Catholic man to embrace this vocation. Patriotism is more than love of country; it is love expressed through service, sacrifice, respect for the dignity of every human person, and the courage to build unity where others sow division. As Blessed Michael McGivney envisioned, Catholic men are called to be witnesses of hope in both Church and society.

We warmly invite you to participate in the **Exemplification of Patriotism** on **Saturday, August 29, 2026**, at **Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church** in **Pawleys Island, South Carolina**.

More than 125 years ago, the first Fourth Degree exemplification gathered 1,000 candidates who answered the call to become Sir Knights. They understood that love of God and love of country are not competing loyalties but complementary responsibilities, each strengthened by the other. Today, that same call remains.

This Exemplification offers more than a ceremony. It is an invitation to renew your commitment to Christ, your family, your parish, and your country. Surrounded by your wife, children, and fellow Brother Knights, you will witness a tradition that forms Catholic gentlemen to lead with humility, serve with charity, and stand courageously for truth.

If you have not yet taken this final step in Knighthood, we encourage you to prayerfully consider becoming a Sir Knight. At a time when our nation longs for healing, unity, and moral leadership, your witness has never been more important.

Join us as we continue the legacy of **Faith, Unity, Patriotism, and Service** living the Gospel in charity and truth for the good of the Church and our nation.

Vivat Jesus!

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Exemplification Details

Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church
1633 Waverly Rd.
Pawleys Island, SC 29585

Candidate Registration	**8:30 AM**
Daily Mass	**10:00 AM**
Candidates Assemble	**11:00 AM**
Exemplification of Patriotism	**11:30 AM**
Lunch	**1:30 PM**

Exemplification Fee

- Candidates **$70**
- Priest Candidates **$50**

The Assembly is expected to cover the Priests candidate fee.

Lunch Fee

- Sir Knights/Guests **$35**

Fees payable to District Master Michael Allen and brought to exemplification with Form-4's.

Assemblies shall email a list of candidates and a guest count for dinner to District Secretary Jeff Crouch no later than 8/25/2026: jeffrey.crouch7@gmail.com.

Eligibility requirements for candidates

- Third Degree Knight of Columbus with current membership card.

Uniform Guidelines for Candidates/Sir Knights

The preferred attire for candidates is the current Fourth Degree regalia. An appropriate alternative is a dark suit with a conservative tie or a dress uniform for military members, law enforcement or firefighters without a firearm. It would be inappropriate for law enforcement officers to open carry a firearm at the Exemplification. Candidates may no longer wear a tuxedo for the exemplification. Social Baldrics are no longer issued to new Sir Knights, nor should the social baldric be worn with the official regalia, a suit, or any attire other than a tuxedo. ***Members admitted prior to June 30, 2024, may continue to use the social baldric when wearing a tuxedo. Tuxedo and social baldric for these Sir Knights are permitted at this event.***

Please reach out to Jeff Crouch at 864-430-0938 or jeffrey.crouch7@gmail.com with any additional questions.