Knights of Columbus
Fr. Nicholas J. Habets, Assembly 1505
1236 Prosperity Rd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451-9287

The Flag, Sword, and Cross Newsletter

1 August 2026

From the Faithful Navigator…

Faithful Sir Knights,

Happy August to everyone. I pray all is well with you and family. The assembly has embarked upon a new fraternal year and I am blessed to be surrounded by such worthy and faithful gentlemen. Due to previously planned family events, I am unable to be present for several meetings and events in July to mid-September. It is our fine officers that are working hard to keep our good deeds moving forward despite my absence.

In July, we recognized Faithful Captain Tom Wenthe as Sir Knight of the month for June. Tom is relatively new, but had readily volunteered for Scribe duties last fraternal year when needed. Then he volunteered for Captain this year to fill a void for this desperately needed position. Kudos to Tom for this and his many other contributions.

Also, Fr. Habets Council 4632 has established a committee to assess the serviceability of the Santa Maria float. We were invited and SK Steve Coughlin volunteered to be our representative on that committee. The committee hopes to restore or replace the float in efforts to promote our presence at parades. Especially now, at a time when we must rebuild our Color Corps ranks after transitioning to the new Official Regalia Dress (ORD).

All members and spouses are invited to the PFN Dinner on August 22nd. And the VAVS Committee will be supporting a bingo event on August 6th and a birthday celebration on August 28. Please join us.

Lastly, Virginia primaries are quickly approaching with elections in November. Please vote.

Sending with continued prayers for all,

Wayne Phelps, FN
Assembly 1505

Virginia Primary Election – We have the Democratic primary for Congressional District #2 and Republican primary for Senator on 4 August 2026. There may be other primaries in the local area. Enter your address in the link below to see what is on your 4 August ballot:

https://ballotpedia.org/Main_Page

November Ballot Initiative – There are three ballot initiatives to be voted on. A synopsis is provided below; however, the link allows you to see more detail.

https://ballotpedia.org/2026_ballot_measures#List_of_state_ballot_measures

Type	Title	Subject	Description
LRCA	Remove Constitutional Same-Sex Marriage Ban Amendment	Race and ethnicity issues; Family-related policy; LGBTQ issues; Constitutional rights; Sex and gender issues	Repeal the provision defining marriage as between one man and one woman and prohibit the state from denying a marriage license to two adult persons based on sex, gender, or race
LRCA	Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment	Constitutional rights; Abortion policy	Provide a state constitutional right to reproductive freedom, defined as "the right to make and effectuate one's own decisions about all matters related to one's pregnancy"
LRCA	Voting Rights Restoration for Felons Upon Release Amendment	Voting rights for persons with criminal convictions; Constitutional rights	Provide that persons convicted of felonies have their voting rights restored upon release from incarceration

PFN Dinner – Our assembly will host a Past Faithful Navigator Dinner on Saturday 22 August at 6 PM. This is an assembly event, not only for PFNs. Tickets are $25 each. Cash, checks or credit card are accepted. Tickets are available at the door, however; we need you to send your RSVP to FN Wayne Phelps or FC Tom Wenthe.

Chalice Ceremony – Provided a Chalice Ceremony and Honor Guard for SK/FDD/CPGK Richard Conrad of Monsignor Mickle Council 14263 in Cape Charles, VA on Friday, 31 July 2026. FDD Richard Conrad was the Charter Grand Knight for Monsignor Mickle Council 14263.

Knights Night at the Tides - Kempsville council will have a fraternal event of "Knights Night at the Tides" on Saturday, 5 September 2026 at the evening baseball game. This is for Knights and their families. Tickets will be made available to council and assembly members and their families for $5.00 each. Before tickets are exchanged for a group seating area, we would like to have an idea of how many will attend. Father Habets and members of other local assemblies will provide a Color Guard and PFN Joe Burns will sing the National Anthem.

Please let Faithful Navigator Wayne Phelps (waynephelps@yahoo.com), Faithful Captain Tom Wenthe (thomaswenthe@hotmail.com), Grand Knight 10515 Joe Sivak (pjsivak@gmail.com), DGK 10515 Myles Brooks (meb8826@aol.com), know if you will attend by 15 August. Tickets will be available by 22 August.

VAVS (Vets Admin Voluntary Service) – Our assembly visited the Jones and Cabacoy Vets Care Center in Virginia Beach on 4 June to support the veterans and to play BINGO with them. Thank you to the Sir Knights who participated. Please consider volunteering to help with the monthly BINGO at 10 AM on the first Thursday of the month at Jones and Cabacoy Vets Care Center in Virginia Beach. If you would like to participate, contact PFNs Glenn Rodriguez (gboy23454@gmail.com or 757-635-0061) or Stan Schnell (swschnell@cox.net or 757-618-7793).

Birthday Wishes to…

Happy Birthday to our brother Sir Knights born in August:

Ernesto Arao
Brian Bialas
Robert Castner
Marcus Cook
John Garcia, PFN
William Gustafson
William Harvey
Anthony Jackson
Edwin Malixi
Gary Mcclelland
Charles Moon
Fr. Anthony Mpungu
Arthur Sanchez
Paul Schiffbauer
Paul "Joe" Sivak

Father McGivney Guild - The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild promotes the cause for Father McGivney's for sainthood. Father McGivney was beatified on Oct. 31, 2020. Membership in the Guild is free and open to all. Members receive a quarterly newsletter and are remembered in a weekly Mass offered for their intentions. Follow this link: https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/index.html

From the Color Corps Commander…

Color Corps Requests:

- Provided Honor Guard for Father Nicholas J. Habets Council #4632 installation on July 15 at the Columbian Club (1236 Prosperity Rd., Virginia Beach). Honor Guard members were FN Wayne Phelps, PFNs Glenn Rodriguez, Joe Burns (CCC) and Mike King.

- Provided an Honor Guard for St John the Apostle council 13467's Officer Installation on Saturday 18 July 2026. Honor Guard members were PFNs Glenn Rodriguez, Mike King, and Faithful Captain Tom Wenthe.

- Provided Honor Guard for Kempsville Council #1505 Installation on July 19, 2026 at the Catholic Church of St. Mark (1505 Kempsville Rd., Virginia Beach). Honor Guard members were FN Wayne Phelps, PFNs Earl Reid and Joe Burns (CCC), and Faithful Captain Tom Wenthe.

- Provided Color Guard and Honor Guard for Pope Leo XIII Council 10804 at Church of The Holy Family on July 25, 2026. Honor Guard members were PFNs Frank Green, Earl Reid, John Cochran, John Garcia and Mike King.

- Provided a Chalice Ceremony and Honor Guard for SK FDD/CPGK Richard Conrad of Monsignor Mickle council 14263 on Friday 31 July 2026. Honor Guard members were PFNs Frank Green, Glenn Rodriquez, Dave Wemhoff, Earl Reid, Joe Burns (CCC), John Garcia and Mike King with Faithful Captain Tom Wenthe and SK Dan Shaughnessy.

Official Regalia Dress (ORD) – Assembly members not currently owning the ORD are encouraged to consider purchasing the ORD. The ORD makes the 4th Degree more visible to the community / public. Having the ORD allows you to participate more fully in church and patriotic events in the Honor Guard and Color Guard of the Color Corps.

Upcoming Events

- August 27 - Color Guard and Honor Guard for PFN Dinner
- September 5 - Regional Color Guard for Presentation of Colors at Harbor Park for Norfolk Tides game; CCC Joe Burns will sing the National Anthem
- October 23 - Color Guard and Honor Guard for Chaplain's Appreciation Dinner
- November 7 - Special Olympics Fall Championships Regional Color Guard and Honor Guard
- 11 November - Veteran's Day Parade – Virginia Beach ocean front

At the District Organizational Meeting, the Master and Marshall gave instructions about the ORD

- In a Chalice Ceremony, the people required to wear ORD are: Color Corps Commander, Honor Guards (if any), and Chalice Bearer. Others may wear NSDU - NO TUXEDOS
- In Parades, Color Guard at the front of the Assembled Brothers & Color Corps - must be in ORD. Sir Knights in NSDU will follow behind Color Corps. All other Knights in Council Shirts will follow SKs in NSDU

- When performing Honor Guard for a Mass, ORD must be worn. If swords are worn, sit with swords across the lap. When the congregation kneels, SKs with swords should not kneel but either stand if the rest of the congregation is standing or sit with swords across the lap. This will avoid excess noise with the swords.
- In Mass, the Commander will give the visual instruction to remove gloves and berets. Gloves are NOT to be placed in the beret and placed in the pew. Gloves are put in pocket and beret is worn under the belt. This comes from Supreme Master, Vice Supreme Master, Master, and Marshall.

Completed Events

July ~

2 Jones and Cabacoy Vets Care Center in Virginia Beach – BINGO
4 Independence Day – Fly your U.S Flag
4 Joint Father Habets Council 4632/Assembly 1505 July 4th picnic
11 Virginia State Council's Organizational Meeting
15 Honor Guard for Father Habets 4632 Officer Installation
18 Honor Guard for St John the Apostle 13467 Officer Installation
19 Honor Guard for Kempsville 10515 Officer Installation
20 Officers Meeting – Columbian Club – 6:30 PM
22 Assembly Business Meeting – Columbian Club – Rosary 7 PM – Meeting 7:30 PM
25 Honor Guard for Pope Leo XIII Council 10804
31 Vets Birthday Party at Jones and Cabacoy Vets Care Center in Virginia Beach – 10:30 AM
31 Chalice Ceremony and Honor Guard for SK/FDD/CPGK Richard Conrad of council 14263 – 10 AM

Looking Ahead:

August ~

6 Jones and Cabacoy Vets Care Center in Virginia Beach – 10 AM – BINGO
15 Assumption of the Blessed Virgin – check your church for Mass times
22 PFN Dinner - Columbian Club – 6 PM
24 Officers Meeting – Columbian Club – 6:30 PM
26 Assembly Business Meeting – Cape Charles – Rosary 7 PM – Meeting 7:30 PM
28 VAVS Vets Birthday Celebration - Jones and Cabacoy Vets Care Center in Virginia Beach