



# KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

## **CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**AUGUST 2022**

**Please note:**

**This correspondence must be delivered at EVERY COUNCIL MEETING.**

**This correspondence can be divided and given to relevant Officers in the Council. If the Officer role is vacant then the Grand Knight will read out that part of this correspondence.**



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## **Supreme Knights Bulletin August 2022**

Brothers it is a short piece this month as I have been on holiday at the start of the month,  
The Order certainly doesn't stop when you are on holiday.

There were lots of things to attend to when I got back. By the time you have  
Received this we will have completed the Mercy Bus Tour hopefully God willing a great  
success. I am sure other Directors will comment in next month's bulletin. I have lots of

Engagements between now and end of September that I am looking forward to.  
Please remember in your prayers Sister Francis Kelly who joined us in Lourdes and has  
Taken a turn for the worse. Please take care in this extreme heat and cover up well.

May St Columba look after and protect you all.

Fraternally  
Henry Welsh  
Supreme Knight

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*



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## Membership & Development

Dear Brothers,

I hope you are all keeping well.

I was delighted to hear from Head Office that since September 2021, we have send out to the Provinces and Councils all over the country 15,000 of our publicity brochures (trifolds).

Fantastic take up, thank you. Coupled with the posters and various other bits we can distribute, We are certainly doing our best in getting our name out there!

You would have read in the WSD for Media's report about the new website.

It is a fabulous tool for us (well done to Brother Sean and his team for that) to aid

In our recruitment. Send some photos of your work it can be uploaded on there and show Exactly what we do and hopefully attract new men to join.

### Training

Again I've been asked to add a small Training item to this bulletin.

### *Past Grand Knight and Past Provincial Grand Knight Jewels*

When you're Provincial Grand Knight or Council Grand Knight are coming to end of their terms of Office, as you order their past collars, please order in their past jewels too. It's become Apparent that PGKs and GKs are leaving Office without the jewels to acknowledge their hard work. This isn't fair on them and I feel they are being let down by their Provinces and Councils.

Please feel free to engrave the rear of the jewel too (please refer to my past training modules For the correct placement of these jewels) also there are cases of Brothers who have Resorted to ordering their own jewels, in some cases incorrectly, leading to confusion.

If you have served more than one term in either Office, you are only entitled to wear one Jewel per Office held. Each subsequent term of Office is then awarded a 'bar' which then is Fitted to the ribbon of the jewel. Please do not wear more jewels than you are eligible for. The only jewel where more than one can be worn is the Meritorious Service Jewel.

Please do contact me should you need any clarification on this, or any training module, And hopefully I can explain 'this is what we do and why we do it' to you.

~~~~~  
Best of luck in your efforts to recruit and retain

**Danny Ó hEarchai - Supreme Director for Membership & Development**

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## Action & Social

I was really encouraged to see the work being undertaken recently by Southwark Province and I would like to pay tribute to the Brothers for their service and fraternity. Being a Brother of our great Order means we come together to serve God by serving others, but that we also make new friends and improve our own family social life and wellbeing. Congratulations to all in Southwark Province.

Lessness council, along with Brothers from Dartford, Strood, Welling and Orpington and of course, our very own PGK, Br Tom, were on hand at Aylesford to help steward at the Summer fayre. This was the first time the new high-viz vests were worn and they resulted in many people asking us about what we do and who we are. The friars were very impressed also, not just with the new vests but with the way the stewarding was conducted. Well done to all of the volunteers!



### News from the Councils

Brothers at Croydon council have been busy at St Mary's parish having generously purchased a new canopy for the Corpus Christi procession and aided with the procession itself. They then processed around the neighbourhood of the parish bearing witness and ensuring the blessed sacrament was kept safe. Well done brothers!



Dartford Council held their annual BBQ this weekend and it was great to see so many brothers, wives and children come together to celebrate before the summer break. While the Order's mission is one of action and charity, it is important to remember to celebrate your achievements so I'd encourage all councils to get together from time to time and build on the fraternal aspect of our calling.



**Mercy Bus** - Due to circumstances beyond our control, we had to amend the locations with only a few days spare. Following my car breakdown (warranty issue), I was not able to attend the events as I would like. But a big THANK YOU to all that took part, especially Directors that travelled from afar.

**National Action Survey** - At the time of writing (20th July) I have only received 7 completed forms out of over 200 councils. This despite me making it very simple to fill in compared to previous years. Let's hope we had a big influx before the 31st July deadline.

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**March for Life - London 3rd Sept** - Despite advertising this event for several months and asking if anyone needs us to arrange minibus or coaches I have not had one single person contact me to show any interest outside of the London area so anyone that wants to go will need to make their own way there.

**Website relaunch** - As you may have seen the National website has had a makeover. A big THANK YOU to Bro Frank Stanley for working on the new format. We are seeking good 'Action' photographs to add to it. If you have any please send to me. The 'members only' page and training pages will be added in the coming weeks.

### **200 club**

The winners for August are:

- 1 Council 185 – Number 168 - 2. Chris Brooks – Number 41**
- 3. Patrick Gomes Number 107 4. Frank Kelly No 94**

**If you have not done so already please join our KSC Action & Social Facebook page for the latest news.**

Wishing you and your families a good summer break.

Fraternally

Bro Stephen Ferris

Director for Action & Social

[apostolates@ksc.org.uk](mailto:apostolates@ksc.org.uk)

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## Spirituality & Welfare

### Vocations continued from last month:

With seminaries closing throughout the UK, such as Ushaw Collage and St Johns Wonersh due to low numbers of men answering the call to the Priesthood and Diaconate, many of our young men go to Rome to train, in the English and Scotch collages.

I was subsequently contacted by Brother Jim Holroyd, whom some of you will know from Province 5 and Supreme Council, who is the Hon. Secretary for the Friends of the Venerable, who support those in the English Collage in Rome.

The Venerable English Collage in Rome originally founded in 1362 as a pilgrim hospice, it was refunded in 1579 a place of training for men from England and Wales, and it was one of the Seminary collages founded at the birth of the Counter Reformation by Pope Gregory XIII and Cardinal Allen.

If any Council, Provinces or Brothers wish to support the friends of the Venerable please contact Brother Jim Holroyd at (by email) [j.s.holroyd@outlook.com](mailto:j.s.holroyd@outlook.com), further information is also available at [www.friendsofenglishcollagerome.org.uk](http://www.friendsofenglishcollagerome.org.uk).

For Brothers in Scotland, The Pontifical Scots College, Rome has always been a small part of Scotland in the ancient and holy city of Rome, working for more than four hundred years to form men to serve God and the Church in Scotland as priests for more information please go to [www.scotscollege.org](http://www.scotscollege.org), or email [info@scotscollege.org](mailto:info@scotscollege.org).

Please remember all those in formation and the colleges in your prayers and that more young men Join their ranks to serve God and his people. If any council or individuals want to help with Financial support it would be greatly needed and welcomed.

Rosary Cards: We have again teamed up with Aid to the Churches in need to produce Rosary Cards With the Orders logo on the back, they are available from Head Office (Please note postage and Packing will be chargeable).

Many councils give a rosary and a prayer card to children who are making their first Holy Communion in the parishes, some give them to Children as a leaving present as they leave their junior school and start life in the secondary schools, by doing this we can encourage our future church to pray, the cards also get taken into the home thus introducing the Order to the family members.

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**Who is your Brother's Keeper?**

**Grand Knight? Yes but not on his own**

**Welfare Officer? Yes with support**

**You? Yes,** contact them, care for them, support those in need, it is our responsibility to know our brother and their family. Please don't leave it for others to do as no body will.

Let us support one another as we would want to be supported, your brother would welcome phone call just to ask how they are doing, why not let them know they are thought of and remembered.

For those who are preparing to go away on holiday over the coming months I wish you as safe journey, come back to us refreshed with your batteries charged and ready to carry on the good work you have been doing.

**Obituary**

|                   |                                |            |           |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| <b>14/04/2022</b> | <b>Austin Boylan</b>           | <b>295</b> | <b>30</b> |
| <b>16/06/2022</b> | <b>Terence Mac Mahon</b>       | <b>110</b> | <b>21</b> |
| <b>16/06/2022</b> | <b>H Babs Smith</b>            | <b>104</b> | <b>8</b>  |
| <b>19/06/2022</b> | <b>John Connaghton</b>         | <b>104</b> | <b>8</b>  |
| <b>13/06/2022</b> | <b>Peter Drewitt</b>           | <b>984</b> | <b>30</b> |
| <b>05/07/2022</b> | <b>John Benedict O'Donnell</b> | <b>51</b>  | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>16/07/2022</b> | <b>Bernard McGuigan</b>        | <b>51</b>  | <b>2</b>  |

Eternal rest Grant unto them O Lord, May perpetual light shine upon them and may they Rest in Peace Amen

**Special Needs Allowance:**

Please remember brothers that no brother should be lapsed because he cannot genuinely afford to pay his dues.

Sean Mulligan  
Director for Welfare and Spirituality

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*





## *Ecclesiastical Advisor*

At this time of the year some of us may be getting excited about a forthcoming holiday. After 3 years of limitations.

On travel within and outside our countries our horizons, if we can afford to travel, will be expanding!

In July I will be travelling to Lourdes with pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Liverpool. It is many years since I have been to the shrine, and I am looking forward to accompanying those who are travelling from across the diocese to the home of St Bernadette Soubirous. I wonder what surprises Our Lady of Lourdes has in store for those who approach her to ask for her intercession. I will remember the intentions of the members of the Order and their families at the Grotto.

In August I will be having a holiday in Ireland. All our family holidays have been spent near Ruskey, Co Roscommon or near Ennis, Co Clare. I am looking forward to catching up with relations and friends. I usually offer Sunday Mass in the local parish, and I continue to receive so much from being in touch with my family roots.

In September I will be attending a course of formation for new bishops in Rome. During the weeklong course there is a great opportunity to meet other bishops from across the world who have been ordained during the past 3 years and to reflect with them on what it means for a bishop to announce the Gospel in the changing epoch and after the pandemic. Please remember to pray for the bishops who will be participating in the course. I hope that you and your families can get a break during the summer. May you get the rest you need, appreciate to wonder of the world we live in and a deeper sense of your mission as a member of the Order.

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# Youth & Young People

READ AND ACTION THIS IMPORTANT BULLETIN.

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE PROVINCIAL & COUNCIL YOUTH OFFICERS

**Our Youth are our Today and our tomorrow; as such, we must nurture them along their faith journey.**

Brothers, It was a joy to watch a Council Youth and Young People Winners Competition Presentation through the live stream link of their Parish. What a pleasure it was to see the best possible kind of visibility for a Council. 21 Youth and Young People were celebrated before the final Prayers at the busiest Mass of last Sunday. Each Young Person was called up and celebrated as they were presented with their Council, Provincial and Supreme Level Winners Certificates, Cheque and for those that were Age Group Winners their Personal Winners Trophy and Overall Winners Trophy for the ones that were outstanding enough to be recognised as Overall Winners. The Orchestration was Fantastic. The Council also presented the 21 Young People with a gift bag as a well done from the Council. The Parish Priest could not contain his Joy. These Young People have already been celebrated at their Various Schools. The Mass event was a wonderful occasion as the Congregation can be heard celebrating their Parish Young People. **Congratulations to all of our Councils/Provinces for their Participation in the Youth and Young People 2021/2022 Competitions.**

## **For Your Information.**

- Personal engraved Trophies were presented to each Age Group Winners and the Overall Winners of all our Competitions. (These are to keep Trophy's)
- Personal Congratulations Videos were recorded by me and sent to each of our Last 3 (Easter, Prayer and Essay) Competitions Winners School, Parish Group and Parish. The feedback has been wonderful thus far.
- A Generic Congratulations Video was record and has been posted to Facebook Pages of Regions, Provinces and Councils. This will also be sent by email to the Order.

**Are there any feedback from your Brothers, Schools, Parish Groups and other organisations? What feedback have you had Brothers? Please give any feedback from your area of the Country by email to: [headoffice@ksc.org.uk](mailto:headoffice@ksc.org.uk) and [youth@ksc.org.uk](mailto:youth@ksc.org.uk)**

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## **NATIONAL COMPETITIONS 2022 - 2023 ENGLAND, WALES AND SCOTLAND**

The Competition List will come out in August 2022. The Rule Sheet, Posters will come out by August 2022.

**NB:** God Bless you all for all that you do.

### **Things to do**

**March for Life** – 3<sup>RD</sup> September 2022, Mass: 11am St George’s Cathedral Southwark,  
The Emmanuel Centre Marsham St, SW1P 3DW 10.30am - 1.30pm  
The March from the Emmanuel Centre - Ends at Parliament Square 4.30pm  
Many a Young Person attends this event and we should do everything possible to promote this on our Youth Social Media pages and within our Schools and Parishes.

### **Madonna Oakes Trophy – Latest Submission Date: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**Awarded at Supreme Council to the Province or Council who have gone over and above in their work for our Youth.** Applications to arrive at Head Office no later than **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022** addressed to the Director for Youth and Young People... This should detail all your work with Youth and Young People. **See the Madonna Oakes Flyer due out again.**

**YOUNG PEOPLE’S RESIDENTIAL SEMINAR 2022 – HINSLEY HALL, LEEDS**

**2022-Theme: Being Your Brother’s Keeper?**

**Cancelled due to lack of support.** Email letter sent out.

**Wishing each Young Person, The Councils and each Province the very best.**

**The Youth and Young People Supreme Committee wish you and your families well in Faith, Family and Fraternity. Enjoy your Summer Holidays and come back refreshed.**

**Fraternally, Michael Akinrele-Supreme Director for Youth and Young People.**

**Note: As with all the Supreme Directors Report in this Head Office Bulletin. Can I respectfully remind each Provincial and Council Officer that they are required to include a precis/summary of the HO Bulletin in their written Provincial and Council reports, in order to bring it to the attention of the Brothers when emailed in the Provincial and Council Newsletter and Minutes. At the very least he should read it out in the Council meeting.**

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## Media

Dear Brothers,

### **Columba Magazine**

The Summer Edition of Columba Magazine will have been delivered to you all in July in paper and electronic format. We apologise for this being a later delivery. We are now preparing for the autumn 2022 Edition of the Magazine. **This will not be delivered to you until sometime in late October / Early November.** This is because we are now working to a new schedule. This is to allow us time to collate photographs and reports from Supreme Council and put them into the magazine. Articles for the autumn 2022 Edition must be with us **no later than Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September for inclusion.** **Articles must be sent to [columba.magazine@ksc.org.uk](mailto:columba.magazine@ksc.org.uk) ONLY. Please do not email articles to Head Office or [media@ksc.org.uk](mailto:media@ksc.org.uk) as these can be missed from the magazine.**

If you want to change your mind on how we deliver Columba Magazine to you (i.e., from paper to electronic copy or vice versa) please let us know by 9<sup>th</sup> October 2022 in time for your Autumn 2022 Edition to be delivered on time. **Any such requests must be emailed to [headoffice@ksc.org.uk](mailto:headoffice@ksc.org.uk)**

### **KSC Email System**

We are already setting up the email addresses and are now in the process of setting up all Council Grand Knights and Officers. To get your @ksc.org.uk email address all you have to do is get in contact. Contact Brother Sean Smith on 07786 003737 to get yourself set up (this phone number **must not be sent to anyone who is not an Officer in the Order**). Get in contact as soon as you can,

**Be Aware: After Supreme Council 2022 the Order will not be emailing any personal email addresses. We will be sending all correspondence to your @ksc.org.uk email address!! Get your email address today. This has been extended to allow more time for Provincial Grand Knights, Provincial Officers, Council Grand Knights and Council Officers to get in contact.**

### **Is it secure?**

This is a question we are sometimes asked. If you are unsure then the following will explain and allay any fears you have:

***Our Office365 system has been set up with anti-phishing, anti-malware, and anti-virus protections in place (as much as we can).***

***Whilst we can provide some security, we cannot guarantee that the system is 100% secure, like any system worldwide.***

***Where possible phishing emails and malware emails are tracked by the system and, where possible quarantined by the system and not delivered to inboxes.***

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*With regards to personal attacks, this is out of our purview as an organisation. Nothing is 100% guaranteed, in life, and in computers.*

*If a user receives a spam email, then this is automatically put into their "junk email" folder. It is left entirely to the user to protect their own computers. We cannot do that for them. All we can do is advise all users that they protect themselves.*

*I have worked in computer systems for over 30 years and as such I have seen major improvements in security of computer systems.*

*Are we totally safe from attack? No - no-one ever is.*

*Do we have protections in place? - Yes, as much as we can including anti-phishing, anti-malware, anti-spyware, and encryption.*

*Does nothing get through? No - hackers have always been one step ahead of the game, however attacks are few and far between in getting through. Personal protection is for the end-user to organise themselves by installing a good anti-virus software. This in theory provides an extra layer of security.*

*As we have built the system using only @ksc.org.uk email addresses then personal information on the system is kept to a minimum, unless users decide to include personal details when they use the email system. Again, that is a personal choice.*

*I have looked at, and do on a regular basis, the reports that I receive from Microsoft about our email system, and I can confirm that in the last 6 weeks we have had only 1 email sent to the quarantine, no phishing emails, and no emails that contain any recognised malware contained in emails.*

*I hope that this answers any such queries. However, if Brothers have any further questions, please feel free to ask them to contact me directly by email and I will answer those queries.*

### **KSC Website 2022 Version**

The new website has been launched and is full of new features.

**In the meantime, if you have any photographs of Knights in your Council or Province and you want it featured on the new Website, please feel free to email them to [media@ksc.org.uk](mailto:media@ksc.org.uk) and title the email "Photos for the new website".**

### **Room for Improvement**

If you have IT skills and feel that you would benefit our Committee please do get in touch. We can always welcome Brothers with skills to help us. Please email [media@ksc.org.uk](mailto:media@ksc.org.uk) and come along and assist us in our great work.

Sincerely & Fraternaly

*Sean Smith, Supreme Director for Media*

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*

