



The Bulletin

The Memberships' Mail-Shot

SUPREME KNIGHT

Dear Brothers,
On behalf of my Board of Directors and I, we wish you all a happy and healthy New Year 2021



I wanted to take this opportunity to reassure you, that as with the previous national lockdowns, Head Office will remain open for correspondences, receiving dues by mail-only. Due to the recent water damage we will continue to support the Order by all electronic and Social Media means possible. It is my intention to update you on progress on repairs to Head Office. We must remember that there is a "stay at home" directive across the country, so it is a very difficult time for us all. Please keep in touch with all our Brothers by phone where possible. I hope you are all able to attend Masses virtually or indeed by Dial-A-Mass scheme on 01642-130-120 (Cost of a Local Call Only)

I am proud of the robust plans we have in place, supported by an incredible diversity of skills across all Departments and their teams, Head Office Staff we remain dedicated to helping the Order navigate thru these difficult times.

Through the use of zoom videoconferencing that we initiated last year and issued each Province a licence for its use for both Provincial and Council meetings. this to enable our Brothers to effectively work remotely, where possible, please use this system. We and the Order are going through a difficult time, let us each and everyone remain positive in the future. I, personally ask each Council with outstanding Head Office dues to contact Neil or Mairi asap to discuss this matter---please do not ignore these debts to the Order.

Region 4 - Regional Directors Election

I wish to inform you that Forms for this Election were sent out in early December with the closing date of 30th January 2021. When this closes we will have an election process, if there are more than 2 nominees, should there be only one nominee they are automatically elected. May I thank Brother Eugene McCarthy on his positive attitude in the midst of his illness in supporting the Order, we all wish him a speedy recovery as we do for all brothers and families at this time.

2021 Year of St Joseph

Recently, Pope Francis has dedicated the year 2021 to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of St Joseph's proclamation as Patron of the Universal Church.

During the coming year the Order will commemorate this by various Talks and Prayers, please keep up with us on Bulletins and where possible Social Media. Attached Poster for you all.

Archbishop Philip Tartaglia RIP
Attached Letter.

Lastly, I hope that you, you Brothers and families remain safe and well.

Fraternal regards,
Bertie

SPIRITUALITY & WELFARE

My wish for you and your Families this new year is that you have a safe and healthy 2021

COVID-19

With the new Variant being almost twice as transmittable as the original variant, I appeal to all brothers and your families to take every precaution and care to keep yourself and your families as safe you possibly can.

You can do this by only going out if you really have to, and wear a face covering ensuring it is over your mouth and nose, ensure that you keep the 2 metre (6'6") distance and wash your hands as soon as you get home.

Statistics have shown that people from black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds appear to be more at risk of coronavirus complications I therefore appeal to those who fall into this group to take extra care.

I would remind Brothers that a clerical collar does not come with immunity from COVID, please support and pray for our clergy.

The Positives:

With 2 new vaccines now rolled out and the NHS working hard to vaccinate as many people as possible as quickly as possible, Pfizer/Biotech and Oxford/AstraZeneca gives us hope of fighting back, however it must be remembered that the vaccine will not stop you getting COVID what it will do is lessen the effects and greatly reduce the need for hospitalisation.

More Brothers, Widows and Clergy are being contacted on a weekly basis, than has been done for many years, for that I am thankful to the Councils and Brothers who are doing this, if your council has not then please join us and start today. If Brothers need financial assistance make this known to your Welfare officer and Grand Knight.

Apostolic Letter "Patris corde" ("With a Father's Heart")

In celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church, Our Holy Father Pope Francis has dedicated this year to St Joseph.

St Joseph was given the responsibility of guiding our Redeeming Saviour in the role of father, bringing-up Jesus nurturing and protecting him as a child, and a teenager, his example of work as a carpenter taught him to love work, his example shows us just how important the role of a father is in a child's life, sadly in today's society often missing.

Let us all say the prayer through the year that the Vatican has published.

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

*To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.*

*Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

God Bless you all and keep you safe.
Sean Mulligan, Director Welfare & Spirituality.

ACTION AND SOCIAL

During the past few months we have been in a dark place, with the onslaught of Covid 19. We have tried various things on social media to try to encourage our vision of Family Faith And Fraternity, with the Advent season upon us we decided that we would offer the Brothers families and friends the opportunity to share on social media with our Family of Knights the most poignant of all Christian Symbols Jesus in the stable, a true reflection of Christmas. Pope Francis at the start of Advent said "It is a wonderful part of our catechist to reflect on the Nativity Scene" (the Vatican stole our idea by displaying 100 cribs in the colonnade's of the Vatican!!!!)

It has been a key element of our Action to support catholic Action at Christmas by providing campaigns to support this.

Keep Christ in Christmas stickers

Keep Christ in Christmas posters

Reverse Advent Calendars

Now we also had a new campaign "Cribs at Christmas"

The Apostolate Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the event, it was fantastic to see on Facebook every day a crib from our brothers and families and friends of the order. Some of the cribs came from all around the world with some beautiful personalised singing.

A big thank you to Brother Charlie McCluskey for taking the time every day to upload them for us, and a big thank you again to you all for making a joyful and successful project.

With the last year being a "Annus Horribilis" we hope to be bring various topics via facebook for you all to hopefully participate in. We have possibly two for January. We are hoping to doing another discussion session on videoconferencing details to be confirmed, with also a pro-life vigil.

Pro- Life

On the 28th of January the American Pro Life group normally have an annual vigil held in Washington, but because of Covid they will be doing it virtually we hoping to lead on the same day with some sort of vigil of our own. Information will be sent out by e-mail and social media.

Catholic Social Teachings

Faith, Family & Fraternity;

The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society -- in economics and politics, in law and policy -- directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. People have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all; so remember that we are all God's Children and no man is an island."

Happy and hopefully a busy and prosperous New year from the Apostolates Committee

Harry Welsh

Director For Action and Social

COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA

Dear Brothers,

Columba Magazine

Since the Covid 19 Pandemic disrupted all of our activities there has been a shortage of material coming from Provinces and Councils for Columba Magazine. However, Brothers at all levels in the Order have come up with various ingenious ways of continuing with the work of the Councils.

This can be seen with the great number of entries on Facebook and Social Media, showing that Brothers have continued to carry on with collecting money for charitable causes, making presentations and generally keeping the flag flying.

Very few reports of these activities have been sent in for inclusion in Columba Magazine.

Councils and Brothers within them like to see the reports in the magazine. It is nice, for example, that Brothers who have received an award, such as Silver and Gold Jubilarian medals and certificates, have a copy of Columba which they can retain and cherish.

Articles submitted for publication should be sent in Microsoft Word, with photographs sent as Jpegs and **not embedded in the article itself**. Using exotic programmes to send the articles can make it very difficult, at times impossible, to download and edit them. I ask the Brothers to follow these simple rules and suggestions so that Columba Magazine can give the efforts of Brothers and their Councils the credit they are due.

If you have any articles, news stories, obituaries that you would like added **please have these to us at columba.magazine@ksc.org.uk by February 5th 2021.** Thank you.

eColumba

eColumba is intended as a 'noticeboard' publication but with Churches having been closed for the past few months noticeboards have not been seen by Parish-ioners. However the situation will improve so please keep your noticeboard up-to-date not only with eColumba but also with contact details for your Council and any other items of interest.

Please send us anything you want advertised for the December Edition by Friday 22nd January 2021.

National Website

The current version of our KSC website will no longer be updated with anything new. In December 2020 it was decided and agreed that a newer version of the Website was needed. As such over the next 3 months we will be very busy making an entirely new website for use.

The new website is being built so that it can be viewed properly on mobile phones, tablets and PCs. This will be launched in March 2021 to coincide with the new KSC Year. Also in this version we will finally launch all of our Forms so that we can fill them in online and send them to Head Office for processing.

Currently there are 6 brand new designs for the new KSC Website. Once the Supreme Knight has decided on which version we should have we will start to rebuild the new website.

Whilst this is going on we ask that you contact any of the Supreme Directors directly if you require anything that is currently not on the "old" KSC Website.

The KSC Brand!

In line with a decision from the last Board fo Directors Meeting, we will now be making available to all Provinces, Councils and Officers a Letterhead that can be downloaded from the current KSC Website (Under Head Office in the Members Dashboard).

This letter head is to be used by all Councils and Provinces for all Communication within and without the Order.

We suggest that all Council Officers, Provincial Officers and Board of Directors download a copy and store it locally.

It has been produced in Word format and therefore can be edited so that letters can be written using this template.

Please use this letterhead when sending communications out from now on.

Sincerely & Fraternaly

Sean Smith, Supreme Director of Media

YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

READ AND ACTION THIS IMPORTANT BULLETIN.

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE OFFICER HANDLING YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE MATTERS IN YOUR PROVINCE / COUNCIL

Brothers, wishing you and your family a Happy New Year in Faith, Family and Fraternity. Pray God the year of our Lord 2021 is much, much better than 2020 that we have left behind. Can I implore you to keep in touch with your Primary/Secondary School or College contacts? Especially with the Lockdown tier system in different parts of the Country presently. God Bless you all.

Everything that Youth and Young People promote, competitions, Seminars and various events are Faith based and help to emphasise our Faith. Our faith Family of Knights of St Columba's Children, Grandchildren, Family Members and Friends should be encouraged to participate. Our faith Family of Parishioners at every Parish and at every Parish School-Primary, Secondary, College, Academy and University should be encouraged to participate. Even those nondenominational schools that are interested can be encouraged. Let us be true to each other and show our Fraternity and love for one another in helping each other in carrying out our Youth work.

Various Youth Bulletins have been sent out by Head Office. Please promote them to your Schools Primary, Secondary Catholic Academy's and Colleges. Many other bulletins resources have been placed on the Youth and Young People's Facebook page so as not to fill your emails with too much content. You will have noted that some of the Bulletin items have been for the Young People's participation and others have been courses for the Teachers and Youth Workers who work with Young People's participation.

- The Christian Heritage Centre – Christian Leadership Formation (Yr12+)
- Youth 2000 UK online Course
- Cafod Free Student Leadership CPD - This is ideal for Secondary School Teachers.
- **KSC Youth and Young People Competitions 2020-2021 – Revised Dates for 2021**
- Million Minutes Beacon Parish Virtual Course for all those working with Youth (FB)
- Westminster Youth Ministry – Communication and Public Speaking Course (FB)
- Westminster Youth Ministry – Youth Leadership Project Course (FB)
- CYMfed - Nottingham Diocesan Youth Service The Acutis Project', offering design, website and training services. (FB)
- **The Columban Missionaries Fathers Schools Media Competition 'LET'S CREATE A WORLD WITHOUT RACISM' Original writing OR Original image on the subject matter for our Young People of 14yrs-18yrs inc to submit. Email & FB**

THE ABOVE (FB) ITEMS WERE ALSO PLACED ON THE FACEBOOK PAGE. Please keep promoting these competitions and events Brothers in Faith, Family and Fraternity.

Re: KSC Youth Competitions

Extended 2019/2020 x 3 competitions all closed 30th October 2020 – **Winners details, Scans of Easter Paintings and Prayer and Essay of Winners were disseminated to the Order via email by Head Office. Certificates and Winners Cheques will be sent soon as Head Office is able to send them, so please bear with us. Winner's details sent again with Bulletin.**

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS 2020/2021 - ENGLAND, WALES AND SCOTLAND

Send your Provincial 1st, 2nd & 3rd placed Winners of each year/age group to Head Office please. DO NOT SEND MORE THAN 1st, 2nd & 3rd PLACED WINNERS PLEASE.

Date Winning Provincial Entries to Arrive at Head Office.

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|---|------------------------|
| Nativity Scene Painting: Primary Grades | 4 to 7 years of age. |
| 5th February 2021 | |
| Nativity Scene Painting: Primary Grades | 7 to 11 years of age. |
| 5th February 2021 | |
| Easter Scene Painting: Primary Grades | 7 to 11 years of age. |
| 7th May 2021 | |
| Easter Scene Painting: Secondary Grades | 11 to 14 years of age. |
| 7th May 2021 | |
| Easter Scene Painting: Senior Grades | 14 to 18 years of age. |
| 7th May 2021 | |
| Prayer Composition: Primary Grades | 7 to 11 years of age. |
| 28th May 2021* | |
| Prayer Composition: Secondary Grades | 11 to 14 years of age. |

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| 28th May 2021* | |
| Prayer Composition: Senior Grades | 14 to 18 years of age. |
| 28th May 2021* | |
| Essay Writing: Secondary Grades | 11 to 14 years of age. |
| 28th May 2021* | |
| Essay Writing: Senior Grades | 14 to 18 years of age. |
| 28th May 2021* | |

***As suggested in previous Bulletins the Closing Dates of the Prayer/Essay Competitions have been brought forward to allow presentation to be made to winners before the end of School year. It must be noted that Primary yr6/yr7 pupils leave for Secondary School and Secondary School yr11,yr12,yr13/S5,S6 may leave after taking their GCSE for work, College or after A' Levels leave for University. This way at least the Presentation can be made before they depart to work or for further education.**

My comments for January 2021 follows: Zoom Training – I am currently carrying out One-On-One Zoom training for a Council's Officers. After each Officers One-On-One Training he receives the Zoom recording and a Resource Folder of items from the Orders website plus a Role Guide note. Next the same Training Role is carried out with the whole Council on a different date, just before the Council monthly Committee Meeting. I consider this opportunity a privilege to be able to pass on the very little knowledge I have acquired onto others using the Order's publications with advisory notes. The Membership Officer now has a voice in Council. The Action and Youth Officer has disseminated all competitions to various Schools, Parishes. He is placing things on the Council Whatsapp page and before long will put items on the parish Facebook page. He has written the Parish Priest asking for space on the website and asking for support within the Parish. He has had a very, very positive response from the Parish Priest and been given website space. His promotion led to 6 Local Young People taking part in the Youth 2000 UK Online event that was emailed and placed on the Youth and Young People Facebook page. Furthermore, both Officers are now submitting written reports for each Council Meeting.

Dear WPGK, can I implore you to kindly communicate who your Youth Contact is to your Council Action and Youth OR Youth Officers? Can they know when or what date to send the Competitions in for Provincial Adjudication? Can they know how many of the entries to send in please for adjudication? Please, please do this in the advent the Provincial Role is vacant or about to become so. God Bless you.

Things to come.

Youth and Young People Zoom Virtual Seminar-Officers and Council Brothers.
Youth and Young People Zoom Virtual Seminar's
Contact spread sheet with Youth Contacts

Can I respectfully ask you to action the below and give me a feedback? Yes, I appreciate some of the below are Covid-19 permitting.

- 1) With permission can we ask the Parish Priest to present the Parish winners at Mass in front of the Congregation?
- 2) Remember Brothers, not all our young people attend Catholic schools and should not be denied participation, therefore promote these items in the parish please or even consider non Catholic schools.
- 3) Can we announce these competitions from the Lectern at Masses once a year minimum, subject to the support of the Parish Priest? If agreed, we would need to have details to hand out.
- 4) Can we obtain permission from the Parish Priest/Religious/Catechists to introduce these competitions to our young people during their Holy Communion Course?
- 5) Can we obtain permission from the Parish Priest/Religious/Catechists to introduce these competitions to our young people during their Confirmation Course?
- 6) Can we scan our winners 1-3, 1-4 or Both year/age group winners entries at Council Level, scan by Council at Provincial Level scan by Provinces back to the Province of Councils whether Paintings, Essay or Prayer entries to all the Participating bodies i.e. Schools, Youth Clubs, Parish Priests etc? Do not display the names of the winners rather use e.g. First Place, Second Place, Third Place and so on....

May this new year bring us all glad tidings with hope of a better future. Please stay safe.

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