



KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JUNE 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.



INDEX

CORRESPONDENCE FROM:	PAGE NO
The Supreme Knight	3 - 4
Membership & Development	5 - 6
Action & Social	7 - 8
Spirituality & Welfare	9 - 11
Youth & Young People	12 - 16
Media	17 - 18



Supreme Knight Newsletter June 2022

Dear Brothers we are halfway through the year already. There are so many wonderful things happening around the Order. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all Brothers who have been installed as Provincial and Council officers enjoy your term of office. Trish and I were invited to help celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Knights of St. Columbanus's Founder Canon James K. O'Neil I presented them with a Plaque which they were delighted to receive. Brother Brendan McCann the Supreme Knight thanked us for the gift and sends fraternal greetings from his Order.



As usual we were treated like royalty a big thank you to them. As I write this, we are waiting to go on our journeys again to Knock where I will pray for our Order.

During the month of May I attended two Installation of officer's ceremonies one in Liverpool and one in my own Province in Llandudno, both great days. We have also attended Monday night Rosaries for the Re-dedication of our Order. Thanks to all who attended.

I was invited to Carfin Grotto by SPUC for the unveiling ceremony of a statue to St. Gianna Molla in the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes Carfin. Thanks to all the Brothers who attended, we as the Knights of St. Columba had a group blessing from Fr Grant of the relic of St Gianna. Which we were honoured to receive.

As we prepare for our National pilgrimage to Lourdes in June, if any Brother wishes to send any Intentions we will remember them during our Masses especially on the 9th of June the feast of St. Columba. Please send to Head Office.

Faith, Family, Fraternity



Just a reminder of the celebration Mass for Archbishop Malcolm's 40th Anniversary on entering the priesthood on Sunday 26th of June. It will be held in Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral at 11am where we will have a representation from the Board of Directors all Brothers welcome to join us.

I will be attending on the same day the opening ceremony of the shrine of St Winfred in Holywell, where the Knights of St. Columba have been given the honour of carrying the statue of St. Winifred in the procession before Mass.

May St. Columba protect you and keep you safe.

Henry Welsh
Supreme Knight

Faith, Family, Fraternity



Membership & Development

Dear Brothers,

I hope you are all keeping well and you and your families too of course.

Each month I try to link these bulletins to what's relevant in our Churches' calendar. Gets tough mind you when I see our Clergy wearing green vestments, does that mean nothing is going on?

No chance!

As we enter summer, this is the Knights of Columba's chance to shine!

Can we arrange a summer fete, a BBQ, a car wash, a church clean-up, a garden party or just meet up with you fellow parishioners with a cup of tea and a chat, hosted by your Council? Make ourselves public, make ourselves known and this is our perfect hunting ground to highlight any gent who you may think will benefit from being a member of *our* Order.

You'll know by now my persistence of involving our clergy. Involve and include them from the start and we cannot go far wrong. We have to get out of our Chambers and into our communities without delay. Let us celebrate being at the forefront of our communities and brave enough to put a shift in publicly.

My Brother Directors will be bored of reading this – the role of Membership and Development Officer, whether it's at Council, Provincial or Supreme level, is the most 'unreligious' department of this Order. Can we evolve ourselves into bringing Christ to our works? You bet we can. Jesus Himself only had 12 men beside Him and look how that turned out! Use your charisms and those around you to attract men to join in our works.

I read a wonderful comment on the Membership & Development Facebook page recently. A brilliant photo was posted by CL60 (Carlisle) as they celebrated a young mans elevation to Full Knighthood. The comment was:

'Men who pray together, play together and stay together'

Faith, Family, Fraternity



Membership & Development

Love this! This is right up our street! Let's us socialise as Councils and Provinces. This is our faith and we share food and drink together, we are evangelising all the time and for not only the Catholic Church, but the Knights too, make ourselves inviting to our communities and draw them in so they wish '*I want what they have*'. We won't find that sitting in our Chambers hiding away, let's get amongst it and lead from the front.

We are all, indeed, the Knights of St Columba...

Be brave Brothers, just like Jesus Himself was....

~~~~~  
Please do let me know any thoughts, ideas, and suggestions  
Best of luck in your efforts to recruit and retain  
[membership@ksc.org.uk](mailto:membership@ksc.org.uk)

Fraternal wishes,

**Danny Ó hEarchaí**  
**Supreme Director for Membership & Development**

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*



## Action & Social

Following the April handovers, councils should have reconvened and completed new officer handovers. A good handover will allow new officers to hit the ground running and remember, the first order of business of any new officer is to complete the work commissioned by his predecessor. Now is the time to get things done before the summer holidays and start putting in place plans for the autumn and winter months. Remember brothers, an active council is a growing council and brothers with work to do will be more motivated. Let's get planning and let's get active!

**National Action Survey** – You will shortly receive the new survey form. Please complete and return it ASAP. It will also help our committee judge the Charles Ferro Award and Council of the year.

**200 club** – The June winner are

1. No. 97 Robert Waters Council 433
2. No. 23 Katrina MacInnes (HO)
3. No. 50 John O'Donnell Council 429
4. No. 35 Dennis Troy Council 216

Numbers still available, please see form below and send to Mairi at KSC Head Office.

**National Action Project** – We have about 3 months left so please raise and send funds for The John Foster Memorial Home.

**Abortion in Scotland** – on 12<sup>th</sup> May I received an email from John Deighan of SPUC regarding the Women's Health Minister Maree Todd announcement that the home abortions scheme in Scotland are to continue. However, in a letter to Committee members, she revealed that she has made the decision before a promised safety evaluation is completed. SPUC consider this to be a reckless policy which leaves women to suffer the effects of abortion at home, with no medical supervision or support, and then forces them to dispose of foetal remains on their own. This policy even deprives women of the opportunity to meet with a doctor in person.

**JULY: - Divine Mercy Bus** - 25 July –30th July, it will travel the country with 2 Priests on board to hear confessions at the various stops (Newcastle, Salford, Leeds, Birmingham, Wrexham, Liverpool), and will finish with Mass at the Hope University Chapel at 2pm.

**SEPTEMBER - March for Life** - Saturday 3rd September 2022 – London. Please let us know if you wish to go to this pro-life event and we can plan coaches.

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*



## **Action & Social**

OCTOBER - Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October Aylesford - Southern Provinces Pilgrimage & Full knighthood ceremony at Aylesford Priory. (Details to be announced).

A big THANK YOU to those that lead and supported the May Rosary on each Monday on zoom.

Brother Stephen Ferris

Supreme Director for Action and Social - [Apostolates@ksc.org.uk](mailto:Apostolates@ksc.org.uk)

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*





## Spirituality & Welfare

**Tempus fugit.** Time flies, brothers. It is hard to believe that the summer is upon us once more. This year, June opens and closes with Solemnities. On Sunday 5th June, we celebrate the great Solemnity of Pentecost—traditionally celebrated as the birthday of the Church—and on Wednesday 29th June, we celebrate the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, when we mark the martyrdom of two of the Church's greatest saints. Celebrating birth and death; we Catholics really are a strange bunch! Yet, these solemnities point to the way in which we—as Catholics and as Knights of St Columba—are called to live our lives. What was the point of the Holy Spirit's descent upon the Apostles and Our Lady on that first Pentecost if not that they would be willing and able to live a life of service to God and His Church? Why did Peter and Paul willingly go to their deaths if not because that life of service can sometimes lead us where we would rather not go? It is unlikely that a life of service within the Order of the Knights of St Columba will ever lead to a cross or a sword, but it should not surprise us if and when suffering follows in the footsteps of service. In our ever more secular society, one who (inspired by the Holy Spirit) remains faithful to the call to serve is sure to suffer; we might all experience ridicule, indifference, and hostility from time to time. I am certain many of us have already experienced one or more of these realities. We might be forgiven for asking ourselves why we do it, then. Why serve? Why be a Knight of St Columba? Why make use of the Gifts bestowed upon us by the Holy Spirit? Well, what is the alternative? To disregard those Gifts would be a terrible thing; to ignore the call to serve would be positively unchristian. The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul reminds us that suffering is not something to be avoided. If we, like the generations that have gone before us, proudly call ourselves Christian, then we must be ready to accept that identification with Christ requires an identification with His suffering. Without a Good Friday, there can be no Easter Sunday and there certainly can be no Pentecost. We take comfort in the Lord's promise that He will be with us always, to the end of time, and we take comfort in the certainty that He and the Father send the Holy Spirit to comfort and counsel us. We are indeed called to serve, which means we are called to suffer. Can we accept these calls as one and the same? Can we face whatever sufferings come our way, with the help of the Spirit who is our Advocate? Peter, Paul and our Blessed Mother could, and God knows how their service to Him and His Church continue to change the world

**Fr Ryan Black**

**Please remember Fr Ryan in your prayers as he faces his final exams.**

**Forms:** Last month all the forms went out with the bulletin/newsletter, can I ask Councils to complete the forms and get them back to Head Office as soon as possible.

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*



## Spirituality & Welfare

**SW3 forms (Notification of Death)** when filling the form please ensure that the form is written in block capitals, particularly NAMES, as when reading it if a mistake is made on the spelling it can cause offence to the family. I have also found embarrassingly that the Next of Kin is not always correct, where the Brother is survived by his widow but the name on the form is a son a daughter, the letter is written to the son or daughter when it should have been the Brother's widow. The current form (March 2021) should be used. It asks for the email address for confirmation. Almost 50% of the time, I put in what it looks like on the form, only to have it returned undeliverable.

It is also a sad fact that a Brother dies and the Council informs me some months later that they have just found out! If councils were doing as they have repeatedly been requested to do and kept in regular contact with all Brothers, widows and clergy, this would not happen. In our conversation, we can ensure that they have our contact details written down, so family members can contact us.

### Obituary

|            |                |     |    |
|------------|----------------|-----|----|
| 16/04/2022 | Paul Costello  | 127 | 18 |
| 09/05/2022 | Richard Sreets | 512 | 5  |
| 22/04/2022 | Michael Mills  | 518 | 27 |
| 02/05/2022 | Joseph Perera  | 118 | 12 |

It is with sadness I have to advise of the death of Jo Anne Hudson, wife of Bro Pat Hudson, who passed away yesterday 5th May.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and May perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace? Amen

**State Benefits:** It is suggested that last year almost 15 Billion Pounds were left unclaimed, by those entitled to it.

There are a number of web sites where Brothers can check if they are getting what they are entitled to, please ensure that your Brothers and Widows have this information:

<https://benefits-calculator.turn2us.org.uk/>

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*



## Spirituality & Welfare

“Turn2Us” is a charity that help people find out what benefits they may be able eligible to claim For those who do not have access to computers or internet there is a helpline that they can call

The helpline is free, confidential and independent. “We give support and information to people who don't have access to the internet or find it hard going online.

Call on: 0808 802 2000, 9.00 am - 5.00 pm Mondays-Fridays.”

All calls are free from a UK landline and from most mobiles. If you are calling from a mobile, please check with your network provider. Or

Write to: Turn2us, Hythe House, 200 Shepherds Bush Road, London W6 7NL

**This information should be sent to all Brothers, Widows and Clergy (with this information they may be able to help their parishioners, our fellow Catholics)**

Sean Mulligan

**Supreme Director for Welfare – [welfare@ksc.org.uk](mailto:welfare@ksc.org.uk)**

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*



## 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, our own Youth and Young People Competition cycle will finish by the submission of the Prayer and Essay. We then look forward to a period of celebration of the Young People who have taken part as winners of the Council level, Provincial level and the Supreme Level include those who have received Participation Awards/Certificates. Celebrate them PLEASE at each of their Parishes. Have them announced at each Mass they attend, have them mentioned in the Newsletter, Let the Dean of your Deanery know, inform the Archbishop/Bishop and his Youth Chaplain/Director. **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)**

Facebook- KSC Youth and Young People

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/617421102214099>

Brothers, join the Facebook page for Youth and Young People and see other resources that you can promote to your Parish, your Council, your Provincial Facebook pages OR even forward to your Schools and Parish Groups.

**Virtual Zoom Youth and Young People Officers Workshop/Training day. Saturday May 2022 - Start time 09.30am Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Opportunity to talk about all things Youth and Young People.

- Ideas about doing the Youth Role at Provincial and Council Level.
- The Orders Own Competitions and its Promotion.
- Go through all the different promotional ideas sent out and the benefits to the Young People and membership recruitment.
- Our Partner Organisations events and Competitions.

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*



## Youth & Young People

- Talk about the Columba Trophy organised by Brother Adrian de Redman in Province 18 Birmingham. Talk about the Young People Award by Province 10 Brentwood. Talk about the KSC Young People Award and the KSC Speech Writing and Reading Competition. Talk about COP26 and Youth and Young People ideas that we can use going forward.
- Promotion of the Facebook page and posts by Brothers to showcase their successes.
- Explain about the Zoom Youth Seminar and the Residential Seminar Programme.

See you there Brothers.

Expect the Zoom code SOON PLEASE. On receipt please put this date and time in your diary and promote to Council Brothers.

### **Re: KSC Youth Competitions**

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

**Easter, Prayer and Essay** age group Winners Certificates, Winners Cheques, Participation Certificates will all be sent out to the WPGK's and Provincial Officers. Age Group Winners own engraved personal Trophies will also be sent out promptly. **Please present these as soon as possible and celebrate these young talented young people at their Schools and then celebrate them again at their Local Parish by asking the Parish Priest to call them out or ask him to make the Presentation to our Young People. A fantastic opportunity for the Council to gain visibility for recruitment and also to promote the Youth Competitions.**

### **Reminders**

#### **\*\*Submission Date of the 3 age group Easter Scene Painting Competitions is Closed**

- 1) Easter Scene Painting: Primary Grades 7 to 11 years of age.
- 2) Easter Scene Painting: Secondary Grades 11 to 14 years of age.
- 3) Easter Scene Painting: Senior Grades 14 to 18 years of age.

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.

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*



## Youth & Young People

### Date Winning Provincial Entries to Arrive at Head Office.

- |                                         |                                       |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1) Prayer Composition: Primary Grades   | 7 to 11 years of age. 27th May 2022*  |
| 2) Prayer Composition: Secondary Grades | 11 to 14 years of age. 27th May 2022* |
| 3) Prayer Composition: Senior Grades    | 14 to 18 years of age. 27th May 2022* |
| 4) Essay Writing: Secondary Grades      | 11 to 14 years of age. 27th May 2022* |
| 5) Essay Writing: Senior Grades         | 14 to 18 years of age. 27th May 2022* |

**\*Note the above will be closed by the time you receive this.**

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

### Things to do

- Can you ask your Primary/Secondary School, College or University Catholic Chaplaincy if you could come in and introduce the Knights of St Columba to them in 3-5mins?
- Can you ask the Parish Priest if you can speak about Youth at all your weekend Masses given 3-5mins at each one of your Parishes?
- Can you ask your Parish Priest if you can speak to the Holy Communion Children and Confirmation Young People given 3-5mins during their Programme about our commitment to Youth and Our Youth Programmes and the KSC?
- Can you organise a Fun day in your Parish with refreshment for Youth and Young People?
- Can you organise a Spiritual Topical (e.g. **Laudato Si, Catholic Social Teaching. 2 examples only**) day with Benediction at the end with your Parish Priest or his Curate for Young People 16yrs-upwards with refreshments?

Some of the above can then be repeated twice a year or annually as permitted. Please give us a feedback for every event you manage. **Also, remember safeguarding in all that you do with and around Young People.**

- **Have you thought about inviting your Overall Winners and their Parents to your Council OR Provincial Dinner Dance? Just imagine what that will do for the image of our Order. I know of one Province that is doing this? Anymore? Let us know and let's promote this when it happens.**

Let us know of any help you need regarding promotion into your Schools, Parishes, and Church Groups? Let us know of any ideas that you have that will make all our work better please? I want to thank you all on behalf of the Youth and Young People Committee and myself.

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*



## Youth & Young People

### Things to come.

KSC Young People Award

KSC Speech Writing and Reading Competition

Youth and Young People Zoom Virtual Seminar-Officers and Council Brothers –Start time 9.30am, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

Youth and Young People Seminar Virtual dates- TBC

YOUNG PEOPLE'S RESIDENTIAL SEMINAR 2022 – HINSLEY HALL, LEEDS

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and passed as part of Supreme Report. Deposit has been made to Hinsley Hall. 2022-Theme: Being Your Brother's Keeper?**

We expect to accommodate twenty-five young people plus speakers and organisers over the period midday to midday **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022. We will also be visiting the Mercy Bus Tour with the Young People when it arrives in Leeds.**

Poster, application forms due out before you receive this issue. Get your delegates names into Head Office now and don't wait for the forms and Posters.

**Note: Council 977 Gravesend's PP and Chaplain is already committed to sponsoring 2 Young People. NOTE. SPEAK TO YOUR PP or Get ready to sponsor Young People from your Secondary School or your Local Parishes and most importantly send your Own Knights Children. 2019's Seminar had 6 of our own Brother Knights Young People and a Young Knight from Province 39 Jersey.**

**Brecbannoch Pilgrimage**-We should all do our best to help to promote this in our Regions and Provinces. It is ideal for our Youth and Young People. All are welcome to join the inaugural Brecbannoch Pilgrimage from 11-13 June 2022.

Sign up before places run out at:

[www.brecbannoch.org/sign-up](http://www.brecbannoch.org/sign-up)

**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.

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*



## Youth & Young People

**Madonna Oakes Trophy - 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.**

**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.**

**My comments for June 2022 follows:** All Action and Youth/Youth Officers and Council Officers from Councils without Youth Officers should attend the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Training/Workshop Seminar. Promote the Residential Youth Seminar at Hinsley Hall, Leeds taking Place Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

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.

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

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*





## Media

Dear Brothers,

### **Columba Magazine**

The Summer Edition of Columba Magazine will be with you all shortly. It will be a little late in being delivered in June. This is because we needed to allow time for our new Ecclesiastical Advisor Bishop Tom Neylon to embed himself in our Order and send us his first article.

### **KSC Email System**

We are already setting up the email addresses and are waiting for Provincial Officers from **all Provinces** to get in contact to get set up. We are also now adding Council Grand Knights to the system. If you are a Provincial Officer or Council Grand Knight you will need to 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,

**Remember: After June 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 and Council Grand Knights 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.*

*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.*

*Faith, Family, Fraternity*



## Media

*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**

Work is still progressing on our new Website. A “soft launch” will be given to the Board of Directors at their next Meeting in late June before it is showcased at Supreme Council in October.

**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*

