



KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SEPTEMBER 2022

****Next bulletin will be November****

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
Membership & Development	4
Action & Social	5 - 6
Media	7 - 8
Spirituality & Welfare	9
Youth & Young People	10 - 11



Supreme Knights Bulletin August 2022

During the month of August most Brothers will have been on holiday, I hope you have had a wonderful time and not suffered too much with the heatwave and have all kept safe. I have been to Jersey to finalise Supreme Council arrangements and I am looking forward to seeing you all there for what I am sure will be a truly wonderful experience. It will be an historic time as our Supreme Council has never been off the mainland in 103 years! I know the Brothers in Jersey will do us proud.

On the subject of the daily Mass scheme Council 216 have their Mass on the Thursday and are inviting all Brothers to join them for Mass at 6pm. Buffet dinner afterwards at the Royal Hotel at a cost of £10 per head. I am sure there will be a raffle involved somewhere.

I appeal to all Councils if you have any monies left for the JFCT National Action Project could you please get it to HO as soon as possible.

As the Supreme Knight of our wonderful Order, I want to thank all the Brothers for the support given at Sister Frances' funeral.

I was so proud, both on Monday evening for the Reception of her body into Church and on the Tuesday at her Funeral, and of our Brothers who shared the values of our good Order - Charity, Unity and Fraternity, showing support to Brother Frank Kelly, Regional Director for Scotland at the Funeral of his daughter Sister Frances. Brothers turned out in great numbers from all parts of Scotland and Cumbria, the DSK was also in attendance. I was given the honour of reading at Mass, and as Brothers we were asked to do a guard of honour, on the night of the Reception of Sister Frances and on the day of her Requiem Mass.

It is such a privilege to be part of the Knights of St Columba. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen.

The Mercy Bus tour was an absolute success. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control we had to cancel Middlesbrough but as for the other Provinces you were exceptional in your support, thank you for making it such a spiritual and uplifting journey. I would like to thank Mrs Helen Border and her team for the enthusiasm and evangelical way they carried out God's work. A particular thanks to Brothers Danny, Sean, Michael, Stephen McMillan, and Barry for their commitment to the week. I would like to thank all the Brothers from Regions 2 and 3 who turned out in great numbers throughout the week. The tour certainly shows what we can achieve with collaboration with other sodalities within our Church. Watch this space!!!!

See you all in Jersey God willing.

May St Columba protect you and keep you safe.

Faternally

Henry Welsh

Supreme Knight

Faith, Family, Fraternity



Membership & Development

Dear Brothers,

The Mercy Bus Tour throughout northern England and Wales was a magnificent success. We already have 1 application from a gent in Burnley! Just by getting out and about, showing a positive outlook and reaching out has already proved successful. God willing the March4Life in September will prove the same. I personally have never stood on any High St handing out KSC brochures with my regalia on – this is well out of my comfort zone! After an hour we were well into it, thanks to the witness and help of the Divine Mercy (Scotland) team and we were flying! After 6 long days in 5 cities, we actually didn't want it to end and we are already making plans to enhance this experience and visit other areas of the country.

As there is usually no National Bulletin in October due to Supreme Council, this could be the last piece I write to you. What a year we've had on the Membership front. All figures will be released at Supreme Council so won't spoil it here but we are very close to getting back into positive figures, just a whisker away! Thank you each and every one of you who have tried your best to make our wonderful Order attractive to enable new gents to join our ranks and indeed keep on the retention of existing Brothers as we have let ourselves concentrate on new men but forgetting our Brothers who may wish to leave. Keeping men in ensures we continue to grow, which is just as important as new recruitment drives. A wonderful turnaround indeed. I hope you like our new suite of publicity materials, New Initiate Packs and new Welcome & Ceremonial Handbooks. From the turnaround at Head Office it looks like that's yes! I've just ordered a further 3,000 trifold brochures too, fantastic to see we have our name in as many places as possible!

I wish to personally thank my Brother Membership Officers from the 199 or so other Councils and 24 other Provinces. We all have a tough job that's for sure and I hope I've provided the right tools for you to enable the best results for the Order. I've listened to your feedback and taken on board what is best for all of us. We do have the toughest job in the Order, but as a team, we can crack on and show the men of England, Wales, Scotland, the Isle of Man and Jersey that there is home for them in the Knights of St Columba.

I will now return to my Province (39) and Council (CL216) as we prepare to welcome the Order to our beautiful island of Jersey for the 99th Supreme Council from 7-9 October. This is a huge honour for us and we're very grateful for the opportunity to host this event. Not only will this be the first Supreme Council held overseas, but also the first in the Diocese of Portsmouth. I wish all traveling Brothers and families a safe trip over. I can't guarantee you the weather, but I can guarantee you you'd be made very welcome from the Jersey Council, a hardy bunch of islanders who chose to Serve God by Serving Others in the Knights of St Columba and I couldn't be more proud of them.

Best of luck in your efforts to recruit and retain as we finish our KSC year and look forward to next year...

Danny Ó hEarchaí -

Supreme Director for Membership & Development

Faith, Family, Fraternity



Action & Social

55th Anniversary of the Abortion Act – We were recently contacted by Bro Terry Graham of Council 29 (Middlesbrough). He is the Northern Development Officer for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC). He has recently been given the task of developing SPUC prayer resources to encourage more people to pray for respect for life and for the work of SPUC. The 27th October 2022 will mark exactly 55 years since the Abortion Act was passed in 1967 and Bro Terry hopes to launch a campaign of prayer in October to draw attention to the nearly 10,000,000 lives lost to abortion in the past 55 years. His intention is that in the six months between 27th October 2022 and 27th April 2023 (the latter date being the anniversary of the Abortion Act coming into effect) SPUC supporters, Churches and Pro-Lifers will rededicate themselves to prayer for respect for life in commemoration of the millions of lives lost. We will discuss with him and formulate a plan.

Relics of St Bernadette – The tour takes place during September and October 2022. I have circulated the dates and locations to the Order and asked for Councils/Provinces to make direct contact with whichever Church or Cathedral they can offer support to.

Nation Action Survey – I was very disappointed with the lack of response to the National Action Survey. Out of over 200 Councils we only had 15 Forms back on time, and even a couple of those were not completed correctly. The winners of the Charles Ferro trophy will be announced at Supreme Council.

Divine Mercy Bus – I am most grateful to the Supreme Knight, Supreme Directors and Brothers that supported the Mercy Bus initiative, as I was unable to attend. The updates and photographs on social media looked amazing.

The current National Action Project - The John Foster Memorial Home, will be presented with the handover cheque at Supreme Council. Mrs Sheila Hargreaves has confirmed her attendance (subject to Past Supreme Knight Ken's health). This is a final request to pay any National Action Project monies ASAP to Head Office.

The next National Action project from October 2022 is 'Let the Children live' a project based in Columbia. The charity has a limited marketing budget but have ordered an initial 6000 leaflets to give out at Supreme Council. Father Peter will provide testimonies, personal videos and appeals, and we intend to spread stories and topics out over the two years to keep interest going after the initial launch. Hopefully we can link to YouTube and a 'Just Giving' page. Miss Pauline Allan, the Administrator of Let the Children Live! will be joining us at Supreme Council.

Faith, Family, Fraternity



200 club - The winners for September are....

1. David Halpern - Council 22 - No 56
2. Peter Sims-Coomber – Council 162/402 – No 43
3. Des Hamill – Council 520 – No 102
4. Council 223 – No 123

Looking forward to 2023 – An Action & Social Officer only gets out of the role what he puts into it. And as I have said in a previous Bulletin, Action is the engine room of the Order, so if you are quiet your Council is quiet. Having said that, I believe it's more important though to do one thing very well, than do ten things half hearted. So, it's really important not to do it all on your own, but get your fellow Brothers involved and let them take the lead on things when needed. In the year ahead please focus on quality not quantity. In my recent survey Form attachment letter, I listed some of the things you MAY be doing. If you would like to try some new Action or Social events next year and need training on any particular issues, please let me know. We will be adding training sections to the new website and are happy to receive information from Brothers on "how to" do anything they specialise in. Have you been on the National website lately? It has been refreshed so please take a look www.ksc.org.uk. Finally if you have not done so already please join our 'KSC Action & Social' Facebook page for the latest news.

I wish to say a big THANK YOU, for all that you Action & Social Officers do. It is greatly appreciated.

Fraternally

Bro Stephen Ferris

Director for Action & Social

apostolates@ksc.org.uk

Faith, Family, Fraternity



Media

Columba Magazine

First and foremost, we now have a temporary new Editor for Columba Magazine. This has only been a preliminary talk with a Brother willing to take on the task that Brother Tom Knight was such an expert at for so many years. Further announcements will be made on this as soon as everything is confirmed.

We are now preparing for the Autumn 2022 Edition of the Magazine. **This will not be delivered to you until some time 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 23rd September for inclusion.**

Space in the Autumn Edition will be at a premium as we currently have 4 large articles to be placed into the Magazine, as well as our usual articles from the Supreme Knight and our Ecclesiastical Advisor Bishop Tom. If your article does not appear in the Autumn Edition then please be assured that we will get any articles left over into the Winter 2022/2023 Edition of Columba Magazine. We will add articles, primarily on a first-come first-served basis for this edition and, secondly, on a space priority.

Please note the extended date for inclusions. Articles must be sent to columba.magazine@ksc.org.uk ONLY. Please do not email articles to Head Office or media@ksc.org.uk as these can be missed from the magazine.

KSC Email System

My apologies to those Officers who contacted me during August to have their email addresses assigned and were unable to get in contact. Alas in August I have been away with KSC business and had a week's holiday. If you were unable to get through to me then I ask that you contact me again.

Please also be aware that email addresses can only be set up by phoning me on 07786 003737! I cannot register your email address if you email or text me. There is a process that must be adhered to with regards to passwords and security, as well as advice on how the min email system works.

I am planning a training session on how to use the email, cloud drive and Office365 system in late October/ early November for all users that are set up on the email system.

A full report on the progress so far will be delivered at Supreme Council.

Faith, Family, Fraternity



KSC Website 2022 Version

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

We will continue to add new features to the website after Supreme Council, so please keep an eye out for these as we roll them out. Any new features that we add will be notified in future Bulletins, so please make sure that you read them.

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 and come along and assist us in our great work.

Sincerely & Fraternaly

Sean Smith, Supreme Director for Media

Faith, Family, Fraternity



Spirituality & Welfare

What is a life worth?

Sadly, in today's society, not a lot. A baby can now be aborted at home, the expectant mother only needs to see her GP – to get the home abortion pill.

Originally brought in to ease pressure during the pandemic as of 23rd August it has now been made permanent, the pandemic once more used as an excuse to get this in while people's attention was drawn away, eroding still further the importance of that babies life.

The pill being available for up to the first 10 weeks of pregnancy, but this must come with risk to the mother, if there is excessive bleeding, or all the foetus does not come away fully, has the possibility to cause the death of the mother.

There is a group strongly pushing for abortion up till birth. How can this be right? We cannot call it murder as the baby has not been born, but what is the difference? Abortion still denies the chance of life to that child.

Assisted suicide

The former Health Secretary, Matt Hancock has stated in The Express newspaper, that he thinks that a free vote should be given to MP's when the subject of Assisted Suicide is put before the House of Commons.

According to the right to life website Mr. Hancock came under intense public criticism.

Be in no doubt Brothers that should assisted suicide be passed into law, then it will be used to save money, guilt of not wanting to be a burden on the family will be one tool used to persuade the patient to accept assistance to end their life.

For further information please see, the following websites:

- Right to Life at www.righttolife.org.uk**
- SPUC at www.spuc.org.uk**
- Pro-life students at www.prolifestudents.org.uk**

What can you do

- 1. You can use the most powerful weapon known to man – prayer**
- 2. Write to your MP – ask them not to support abortion, assisted suicide or euthanasia.**

Supreme Council 2022.

As we fast approach the time for Supreme Council, I ask all Brothers to pray for the Delegates that God guides them in their discussions and decisions.

As there will be no Bulletin in October can I thank the Welfare Committee - Rev. Fr Ryan Black, Brother Damion Reilly - Past Provincial Grand Knight of Province 38, and Brother Ray Pealing - Past Provincial Grand Knight of Province 2 and Mairi at Head Office for her patience and all her help throughout the year.

**Fraternally,
Brother Sean Mulligan
Supreme Director for Spirituality & Welfare.**

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, hope your summer has gone well and you are refreshed after the heatwave during our holidays at home and abroad.

- I pray that we are all ready for the next phase of our 2022-2023 Youth and Young People programme of Competitions and Seminars?
- I pray we are all ready to use each competition as part of our visibility by announcement at Mass as each competition is due to start?
- I pray we will recruit more and more Youth and Young People to our Youth Programme as well as their parents to our Councils as a result of your successes?

We asked for feedback from the Group winners of the Supreme Competitions and some very, very positive responses were sent in with pictures and comments from the Head Teachers as well as the Councils. These will be published in due course. Also, a video sent to congratulate all the Provinces that took part in the Competitions for 2021-2022 plus a video of a Council's successful award from their Province for their Youth successes.

Is 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 and youth@ksc.org.uk

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS 2022 - 2023 ENGLAND, WALES, AND SCOTLAND

The Competition List will come out by the end of August 2022. The Rules sheet and posters will come out by the end of August 2022, all from Head Office. Please action on receipt and send them to your Schools, Parish, Parish Groups etc.

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

Things to do

March for Life – 3rd 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 at 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.

World Youth Day - 01-06 AUGUST LISBON 2023

Our suggestion is that you contact your Diocese and ask to be informed of their Youth Groups intention of taking a group to the event. Keep an eye on the Youth and Young Peoples Facebook page as well for any information I find or is sent to me by our partner Youth Organisations. <http://www.lisboa2023.org/>

Faith, Family, Fraternity



CYMFED Flame Saturday 4 March 2023

Tickets for this event at Wembley, London are being sold very quickly. Again, some of your Diocese Youth Groups are taking groups to FLAME. Join them is my suggestion or organise your own groups. Do it quickly, so you don't miss out. Everything I find out will be posted on our Youth and Young People Facebook page. On occasions some of the Information will be emailed to you.
<https://cymfed.org.uk/flame/>

St Bernadette Relic Tour 2022

Resources for Children and Young People are available exploring St Bernadette's life. The Relic Tour is not just for us adults but also for our Young People as well. Please download them from the link below or from Our Facebook Page for Youth and Young people. Send the link to your Schools and even Parish and Parish Groups.

<https://stbernadette.org.uk/resources>

Catholic Student Network

Please have a look at our new Partner Organisations Programme for September 2023. Thereafter, keep informed about their Programme. Attend any of their programme if possible. Keep a look out for information from WSD Brother Danny's Membership Bulletins and our Facebook page.
<https://www.catholicstudentnetwork.co.uk/>

Madonna Oakes Trophy – Latest Submission Date: Friday 16th 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 16th 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.

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