



THE Heartbeat



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CHAPTER 4, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 2, SECOND QUARTER 2021

CHAPTER EVENTS

DATE	DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
Sept.-Oct. 2021				
May 6, 2021	Thursday	7:30 PM	General Chapter Meeting	Virtual
May 14, 2021	Friday	All Day	New Jersey State Convention	Virtual
Sept. 9, 2021	Thursday	6:00 PM	Pride in our Priests Dinner	<i>The Imperia</i> 124 Easton Ave. Somerset

CHAPLAIN'S BLESSING



Frank Rees, Chapter President, sent me an email requesting an article for the chapter newsletter. He suggested that I write

an article concerning the chalice I used during the Chapter Memorial Mass November 2020. It was an excellent suggestion. Some background some of those present at the Mass were helping me set up for the Mass. One of them asked me questions about my chalice. Others may have the same questions so my article will be based on those questions.

First the design of my chalice. Each priest's chalice personally reflects his understanding of the priesthood. All priests understanding of the priesthood is the same but there are

nuances that is personal to each priest.

The most important action of my priesthood is to preside and celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, which is the official title of the Mass. First and foremost, the Mass is the re-enactment of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. On the cross, Jesus was the perfect sacrifice to Almighty God for the sin of the world and our personal sins.

At the Last Supper, Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Jesus took bread, blessed it and shared the bread with his disciples and said, *Take This, all of you, and eat of it, for this is My Body, which will be given up for you.* The bread became Jesus' Body. Jesus took a cup of wine and said, *Take this all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of My Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will*

be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of Me. The wine became the Blood of Christ.

From this first celebration and any time the early church gathered for the breaking of the bread, the bread and wine used at that celebration became the Body and Blood of Christ. This continues until today and will continue until there is a priest available to preside and celebrate Mass.

For me, the most image of Jesus is His role as High Priest on the cross. The most intimate image of Jesus is with him gathered with his disciples at the Last Supper. This is when Jesus called His disciples His friends. That is the reason why I have the figure of Christ and His disciples on my chalice.

In the background color is red. At every Mass the priest invokes the Holy Spirit to change the bread and

Chapter Officers

Position	Member	Phone	E-mail
State Officer (Acting)	Scott Williams	732-236-3084	willkall@verizon.net
Chaplain	Fr. William Smith	732-634-1403	frsmith_kofc_tettes@yahoo.com
President	Francis A. Rees	732-828-2942	frees814@gmail.com
Vice-President	Edward Schilke	908-713-4914	eschilke@gmail.com
Secretary	Chris Duffett	908-510-18669	cduffett1@gmail.com
Treasurer	Scott Minnihan	732-356-6660	s_minnihan@yahoo.com
Senior Advisor Trustee	John Amato	732-920-9899	johnnybop34@yahoo.com
Trustee	Joseph Charmello	732-329-3390	jac910@comcast.net
Trustee	Robert Lynch	73-828-9310	b4lynch@optimum.net
Trustee	Robert Wright	732-416-0479	rjwkofc4815@gmail.com

Chapter Committees

Sergeant-at-Arms	Kenneth Czarnecki	732 429 9283	kenczar@gmail.com
Ronald McDonald House	Dave Pinto John Bauer Stan Hubbard	732-672-3811 732-236-4149 908-420-2124	pintodaj@optonline.net jabauer@optonline.net stanahu@aol.com
Shoulder to Shoulder	Frank Rees	732-828-2942	frees814@gmail.com
Visitation	Bill Hoffman	908-500-2535	dollarbill31@comcast.net
Ultrasound initiative	Stan Hubbard	908-420-2124	stanahu@aol.com
Pride in Priests Dinner	Frank Rees	732-828-2942	frees814@gmail.com
Convention Party	Bill Herring/Bill Hoffman	732-512-8825	debil99@verizon.net
Right to Life	Bob Keeling	908-812-1071	rkeeling@embarqmail.com
Rutgers Catholic Center	Dave Pinto	732-672-3811	pintodaj@optonline.net
Veteran's Affairs	Bill Hoffman	908-500-2535	dollarbill31@comcast.net
Lyons	Ed Shellman	908-850-0536	eshellman@comcast.net
Seminarians	Robert Gray	908-647-5983	junegray3@yahoo.com
Chapter Audit	Bob Keeling	908-812-1071	rkeeling@embarqmail.com

District Deputies

District 61	Dave Pinto	732-672-3811	pintodaj@optonline.net
District 62	Ricardo Rivera	732-789-4397	rrh332004@yahoo.com
District 63	Joseph Charmello	732-329-3390	jac910@comcast.net
District 64	Bob Gray	908-647-5983	junegray3@yahoo.com
District 65	John Rossi	908-400-1852	jjrossi@comcast.net
District 66	William Benson	908-581-3117	cenben06@aol.com
District 67	Dan Murphy	908-635-4120	danmurf@comcast.com
District 68	Ed Suhy	201-317-4501	ed@edstravel.com
District 69	Gerard D'Ambrosio	732-485-8849	gdambrosiokoc6424@gmail.com
District 70	Andrew Ghapp	732-416-6959	goldbrdg@aol.com
District 71	Ken Smetana	732-2126-1844	smetana.kenneth@yahoo.net

Editor: Frank Rees; frees814@gmail.com

wine on the altar into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is usually represented by the color red.

Someone asked me as the altar was set up for the celebration of the Mass,

why I repositioned the chalice. Whenever I celebrate Mass using this chalice, I always make sure that I am looking at the image of Jesus. I do this to remember that when I am celebrating the Liturgy of the Eucharist,

I am doing what Jesus did at the Last Supper. It is not my action.

I was asked was my chalice a gift. I said, "Yes usually the priest's family gives the chalice to the newly ordained priest as a gift." My parents and godparents gave me my personal chalice as a gift. May they rest in peace.

Before concluding my article, I would be remiss if I did not remember State Deputy, Vincent Tavormina, may rest in peace!

Vivat Jesus!

God Bless!

Father Bill Smith

CHAPTER 4 VETERAN'S FUND



Brothers: Thanks for you donations to the Chapter 4 Veterans' Fund in 2020. Despite the cancellation of the

Somerset Patriots game, we still received a record amount of close to \$3000 for the fund. With that we continued to support the three VA facilities in our diocese. It was an extremely difficult year for the residents, and as you know, there were heavy covid fatalities at the Menlo Park facility. Anything we were able to do to add to their quality of life was appreciated.

Specifically, we purchased several dozen blankets for the Lyons VA Home, purchased clothing, comforters, and backpacks for the incoming homeless veterans at the Lebanon facility, and sent clothing to the Menlo Park facility. We also donated to dedicated funds at Menlo Park to purchase an Ipad for a resident, new clothing for the women residents, electric razors for the men, and sweats. We also made a donation to purchase 10 grave blankets under the Wreaths Across America campaign in New Jersey.



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIocese OF METUCHEN

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center · P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840-0191
P: 732.562.2458 · F: 732.562.1427 · E: office.of.the.bishop@diometuchen.org

January 8, 2021

Mr. Francis Rees, PFN
Chapter 4 President
St. Matthias Knights of Columbus
129 Drake Road
Somerset, NJ 08873

Dear Mr. Rees and Brother Knights,

I am sorry that we will not be able to meet in person for the Chapter 4 meeting, given the pandemic. So much is different for us in so many ways this year. I am grateful to you and our brother knights for your leadership. Please let the brothers know that we are grateful for all they are doing in these challenging times to keep the faith alive in our parishes. I know that some pastors have told me how helpful the Knights have been with assisting with cleaning of the churches and helping with social distancing so that people can come to worship. I am grateful to you.

Thank you too for your all you continue to do for the pro-life cause which is under attack in our state, supporting vocations for the priesthood and religious life, family life, catholic schools and for those with disabilities too, amongst your other priorities. It is all so important! I am grateful for you and praying for you. Please continue to pray for me and look forward to when we can see you again person soon! God bless and blessed 2021!

With renewed best wishes, I remain

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen

VETERAN'S FUND FOR 2021

We are now kicking off our 2021 campaign. We are unable again to attend the Patriots game, but donations of any amount will be greatly appreciated and put to good use. Please make checks payable to: "Chapter 4 Veterans Fund" and forward to Christopher Duffett, FDD, Chapter 4 Secretary, 40 Bucknell Road, Parlin, N.J. 08859. Thanks for your continued support, year after year, of this program.

Fraternally,

Bill Hoffman, FDD

PRIDE IN OUR PRIESTS DINNER

Each year the Councils in New Jersey host dinners to honor our men of the cloth. These dinners are conducted in each Diocese, with all Priests of the Diocese invited as guests of the Knights of Columbus. The evening is open to all Knights and their wives, and is a great way for the Knights to show our Priests how proud we are of them. At each dinner, the Bishop of the Diocese is presented with a check from the State Council to assist the Bishop with his personal Charities

The 2021 Annual Pride in our Priests Dinner has been re-scheduled for Thursday, September 9, 2021 at *The Imperia* on Easton Avenue in Somerset.

This annual event brings together **His Excellency Bishop James F. Checchio** and hundreds of clergy and religious from the Metuchen Diocese with brother Knights from all 62 councils in the diocese.

DELEGATES FOR THE SUPREME CONVENTION

The 139th Supreme Convention is scheduled to occur on August 2 through 5 in Denver, Colorado. This year the Metuchen Diocese is allotted two representatives to attend. If you are interested in serving as a representative please notify Chapter 4's President, **Frank Rees**, at frees814@gmail.com.

SLATE OF STATE OFFICERS

The slate of State Officers that will be elected at the State Convention in May introduced themselves at the Chapter 4 virtual meeting held in March, 2021.

The selection of officers are:

- Deputy: **James E. Stoever**
- Secretary: **Raymond C. Sands III**
- Treasurer: **James P. Sweeney**
- Advocate: **Russell D. Petrocelli**
- Warden: **Scott Williams**



With the exception of **Scott Williams**, all the proposed state officers are incumbent members of the State Council, who are slated to move up one chair.

Once formally elected **Scott Williams** will also be the State Officer Representative on Chapter 4.

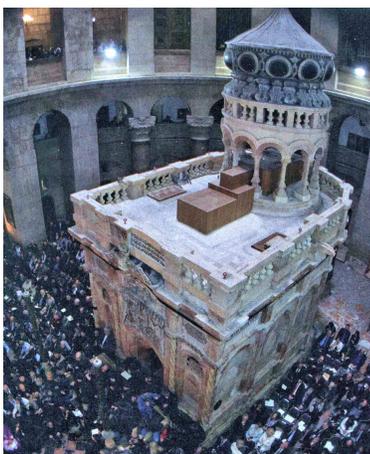
MEMORIALS FOR STATE DEPUTY VINNIE TAVORMINA PLANNED

Both the State Council and Chapter 4 are planning to host separate memorials honoring deceased State Deputy Vinnie Tavormina later in the year or early next year (timing is dependent on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions).

Further information on these events will be provided when initial planning is completed.

A SACRED SHRINE ENDANGERED

It is the holiest Christian shrine. The shrine goes by an odd name, the Edicule, meaning “little house.” It sits under a great dome in Jerusalem’s Church of the Holy Sepulchre. No bigger than a good-sized garage, its marble-clad walls are festooned with hanging oil lamps and mismatched candlesticks with bare, energy-efficient light-bulbs. Daily, thousands of visitors line up for hours to see the sacred spot believed to be the burial place of Jesus. Three major Christian communities who serve in the church—the Greek Orthodox, the Latins (Roman Catholics, represented by the Franciscan Friars of the Custody of the Holy Land), and the Armenian Orthodox.



A COMPLEX HISTORY

The Gospel stories of Jesus’ crucifixion and burial tell us that he was taken outside the city to Calvary, “the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha” (*Jn 19:17*). Here, in an abandoned limestone quarry, the Romans executed criminals, raising crosses on the skull-like rock.

After his death, Jesus was buried in a nearby cave offered by Joseph of Arimathea, a follower of Jesus. Wealthy Jews of that time carved tombs in the soft stone walls of the quarry. These tombs sometimes had two chambers—a front area for mourners and an inner chamber with shelves for the bodies of the dead. Today’s Edicule reflects this design.

Christians certainly prayed at the place of Jesus’ resurrection (later incorporated into the city) within the first century. They would have remembered its location even after the Roman Emperor Hadrian covered over the area with tons of rubble and built a pagan temple there.

In the fourth century, the Emperor Constantine approved the removal of the temple and the excavation of the area, uncovering a cave-tomb that was identified by witnesses as that of Jesus.

A huge basilica rose over the excavated site, incorporating both the tomb and the rock of Calvary. Within a grand rotunda—called the Anastasis (“Resurrection”)—a small shrine (the Edicule) was built to protect the tomb itself.

One significant find. Between the exterior and interior walls, “two sides of the original cave that scientists and historians have never seen before and have always wondered about” are still present. “It helps—sort of—conclude a centuries-old debate about the actual shape and size of the original cave and the original burial platforms that are inside.”

THE 'HOLY ROCK' REVEALED

But an even more important revelation came on October 26, 2016. The restoration team needed to open the area venerated as the actual burial place of Jesus. They wanted to install a water barrier to protect the newly restored foundation and walls from future water damage. They asked permission to remove the marble slab over the spot—venerated by centuries of pilgrims. It had been in place since the present Edicule was constructed in 1809.

A select group of observers from among the Christian communities, with other guests, waited as the marble slab was carefully removed. Below it was a second slab, broken horizontally, and bearing a portion of a carved cross. This second slab had been reported centuries earlier by eyewitnesses. Scholars speculated that it dated from the Crusades, but now it awaited analysis by the Greek team.

Beneath the second slab was original stone, believed to be the resting place of Jesus after the crucifixion. Until this moment, the team had not seen evidence of the rock bed with their ground-penetrating radar.

Reprinted from St. Anthony Messenger, April 2018

NOTES FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT



The COVID pandemic restrictions have curtailed some of the active meetings usually hosted by Chapter 4. Our

last general Chapter 4 meeting was a virtual meeting held on March 25, 2021. Chapter officers have held several live meetings since the Memorial Mass.

Our next general meeting will be on **May 6th** and will be a virtual meeting.

SK Francis Rees, PFN