

The Meadowlands Patriot

Msgr. Peter B. O'Connor Assembly #1543
First New Jersey District Our website:

www.kc4d1543.org

Issue #264 April 2026
Knights of Columbus

A Blessed and Happy Easter to Everyone!!!

Faithful Navigator's Message!

Worthy Sir Knights,

In April 2026 the Catholic Church will celebrate significant events; Maundy (Holy) Thursday commemorates Jesus Christ's last supper with His disciples and the institution of the Eucharist. Good Friday, the Friday before Easter is the Christian day to commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus and his death on Calvary. Holy Saturday is the quietest day of Holy Week; it is the day between the crucifixion and the Resurrection when the body of Jesus lay in the tomb and his followers waited in sorrow and confusion. Easter Sunday is considered the most important Christian holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Vivat Jesus!

SK Joseph DeMasi,
Faithful Navigator

Monsignor Peter B. O'Connor
Assembly #1543
North Arlington NJ 07031
201-527-8913

DATES TO REMEMBER

Membership Meeting
Thursday, April 9th at 8 pm
at Queen of Peace KofC Hall
194 River Rd, North Arlington

Supreme Master's Message



Every March 29th, the Knights of Columbus celebrate Founders' Day, which commemorates our founding in 1882. The observance calls to mind the vision, sacrifice, and determination of Blessed McGivney and the handful of men he called together at St. Mary Church in New Haven. It reminds us that each of us must resolve to have the same determination in the time that God has allotted to us on earth to make a lasting impact on the Church through our service as Knights. It is not only a time to reflect on the achievements of the founders of the order, but also a time to reflect upon the brother knights who contributed to the founding of our

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individual councils and assemblies. Their dedication has built the foundation upon which we, today, are able to do the work of God through our charity, fraternity, unity, and patriotism.

Finally, this Founders' Day, we should remember and give thanks for those brother knights who "found" in each of us the very essence of knighthood, welcoming us to membership in the Knights of Columbus. Whether that person was a relative, a friend, or a stranger at Mass, we owe each of them a debt of gratitude for giving us the gift of knighthood.

This month, as we celebrate Founders' Day, each of us should commit ourselves to doing the same by not simply recruiting a member but, instead, by changing a life by passing on the gift of knighthood that God first entrusted to Blessed McGivney's passionate imagination in the exercise of his priestly vocation. In the same way, that gift has flowed to each of us; forming us in this ever-rewarding vocation as Knights of Columbus.

Happy Founders' Day!

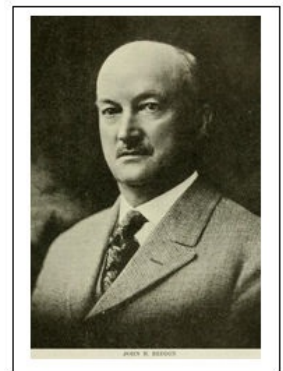
Vivat Jesus!

Michael McCusker
Supreme Master

Our First Supreme Master

Although the Knights of Columbus was founded in 1882, the Fourth Degree would not be established until February 22, 1900, and thereafter, another ten years would pass before John H. Reddin would be installed as the first Supreme Master.

Reddin was born October 13, 1858, in Seneca Falls, New York, the son of Irish immigrants, John and Sarah Reddin. His father



began life in America as a day laborer before engaging in railroad work, which moved the family to Chenango, New York. By 1880, Reddin had begun the study of law in Chenango, a career that would eventually lead him to Colorado.

In 1900, Reddin married Mary Ford who, similarly, was the child of Irish immigrants. Both arrived late to matrimony at the ages of 42 and 32, respectively. Their union would bring two daughters and a son.

Devout in his faith, Reddin was drawn to the Knights of Columbus,

where he played an active role in establishing Council 539, in Denver, as the state's first council, subsequently serving as Colorado's first state deputy. Reddin played an integral role in the establishment of the Fourth Degree by drafting the first ceremonial, and in 1907, was elected as a Supreme Director.

In 1910, Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty and the Supreme Board of Directors elected Reddin as the first Supreme Master of the Fourth Degree, a post he held until his death from a heart attack on December 30, 1940, at the age of 82. During his tenure, he was the originator of the Fourth Degree's free public lecture program, and in 1925, he established the American patriotic essay contest for high school students. He is the longest serving Supreme Master, and today, the Reddin Province of the Fourth Degree (Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah) is named in his honor.



LET US NEVER FORGET!

As all should know this year is sadly the 25th Anniversary of September 11th. We lost many souls, citizens, Law Enforcement, Fire Department, First Responder the day of and it has continued.

The Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, annually conducts a Blue Mass honoring fallen Law Enforcement. This year they have changed the dedication to the 'Guardian Mass' to be conducted on May 2, 2026 at 10:00am, at the Cathedral commemorating the 25th Anniversary of our fallen Guardians.

The Guardian Committee will be offering for \$10.00 commemorative medallions as pictured above. There will be a limited number available however on our Website, firstnjdistrict.net under 'Links'. You can order these keepsake medallions, all proceeds will go to the Guardian Mass Fund, for plaques for the fallen Law Enforcement, Fire Department, First Responders and the reception that follows the Mass.

From: Jim DeLuccia, MFD
First District of New Jersey

Lyndhurst Council

Started off 3/7 with St Patrick's Dinner fund raiser at Sacred Heart.



Then our youth confirmation retreat at the Kearny Retreat Center.



Sacred Heart School youth ministry group put together blessing bags to distribute in Newark.



Mary Immaculate - Secaucus

Charity-Unity-Fraternity Degree



Welcome Brs Dean and Marcelo!



New Eagle Scouts, Ben & Oliver



Vietnam Vets Honored by town!