

## Calling out the Color Corps

The Color Corps is the visible arm of our order. The presence of Color Corps at a Church or Civic Event tells people that the Knights are present, and where there are Knights – there are proud Catholics!

There seems to be a misunderstanding about what events are important enough for Color Corps participation. Allow me to rundown some examples of events where the Parish should consider inviting Color Corps:

- The Funeral or memorial Mass of any Priest, or Nun.
- The Funeral for a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> degree member in good standing of the Knights of Columbus.
- The Vigil and or Memorial Mass for any 4<sup>th</sup> Degree member in good standing of the Knights of Columbus.
- The Any event where the Bishop, or his representative, will be at the Mass. This includes Confirmations, Installations of Pastors, and retirement of Priests, etc.
- Holy Day Masses such as Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil Mass, Christmas Midnight Mass.
- Masses that are special for the Parish community such as First Communions, Eighth Grade Graduations, and Parish Anniversaries etc.
- Masses that are special to the Knights of Columbus, such as a Mass where the special intention is for our deceased brothers or recruitment drive Mass.
- Events that are special to the community where we want to provide a positive message that the Catholic community is present and active, such as 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parades, Memorial day Parades, local festival parades.

The Color Corps is always ready for these events. All you need to do is notify us the correct way. The process is very simple:

1. If there is an event where you think Color Corps should participate, notify your **GRAND KNIGHT** immediately to get it on the Calendar. The sooner the better.
2. The Grand Knight will IMMEDIATELY ask the Faithful Navigator of the local Assembly for color Corps and provide the following information:

Location	Start Time <i>Color Corps will arrive 1 hour before the start</i>	Are secure dressing rooms available for Color Corps one hour before the event starts?	If this involves a Mass, who will be the presiding Priest?
Date	Approximate end time		Who is the contact person and their phone number
Will a reception be held in conjunction with the event? If so, the Color Corps members should receive complimentary tickets to the reception. Also include the price for tickets so that Color Corps members can buy them for their wives.			

3. If the *Faithful Navigator* approves the callout, he sends this information to the District Master and asks permission to deploy Color Corps. When permission is received, the *Faithful Navigator* alerts the Color Corps Commander. It is then and only then, that the Commander can mobilize the Color Corps to be at the event. A little more information about Funerals and Vigils

If you want Color Corps to be at your funeral, print out the following paragraph and put it in the envelope with your Will and Final Instructions

Remember that the first person to immediately call is always your **GRAND KNIGHT**. Too many times people have called someone else at the last minute stating that Color Corps is needed. That is a mistake that too often delays the approval process for Color Corps.

- If it is for the funeral for a deceased brother Knight, the **GRAND KNIGHT** has access on the deceased Knights membership Status and the Assembly to which he belongs.
  - Just because he was a member of your Council does not mean he was a member of your local Assembly. Valuable time can be wasted tracking down the correct Assembly when this is done by persons other than the **GRAND KNIGHT** or the Council Financial Secretary.
  - Furthermore, it is the responsibility of the **GRAND KNIGHT** to verify that Color Corps is wanted by the family.

The Grand Knights also has an obligation to Color Corps. If the parish wants Color Corps at its events, the Grand Knight has an obligation to provide the Color Corps with members. This means young members, AND retired members, worthy of the 4<sup>th</sup> degree and willing to practice with the Color Corps and attend these events. Each parish should have at least 7 reliable members in the Color Corps at all times.

Thank You,

SK Rik Silva CCC

Todos Santos Assembly #2286