

Guidelines Concerning the Liturgical Participation by the Fourth Degree Color Corps of the Knights of Columbus

Diocese of St. Petersburg

Over the years, the Knights of Columbus have been of great support in the life of the Church in our parishes, in our diocese, and in our nation. However, the role of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus in liturgical celebrations is not strictly speaking a liturgical one.

The following guidelines are offered for the liturgical participation of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus Color Corps in the Diocese of St. Petersburg in Florida.

GUIDELINE 1 The Color Corps take part in liturgical functions only when advance permission (preferable several days prior) has been received from the pastor or priest in charge of the ceremony.

GUIDELINE 2 At the liturgical celebration, the Color Corps may lead the procession into the church and precede the procession out of church; no swords may be presented at those times. This is to be done in harmony with the Second Vatican Council's *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, no. 32, which states: "No special honors are to be paid in the liturgy to any private persons or classes of persons, whether in ceremonies or by external display."

GUIDELINE 3 The Color Corps will refrain from activity or external display during the Eucharistic Prayer which differ from the assembly. For example: no swords are to be presented during the consecration. Chapeaux are to be removed at the start of the liturgical celebration.

GUIDELINE 4 During the celebration of the Eucharist, the members of the Color Corps should be seated in an appropriate place in accordance with the directives of the priest in charge of the ceremony. Full liturgical participation, as members of the assembly, is always expected.