



To: James E. Stoever, Acting State Deputy

From: Russell D. Petrocelli, State Warden/State Ceremonial Chairman

Date: May 15, 2021

Re: Report of the State Warden/State Ceremonial Chairman to the 2021 New Jersey State Convention

Worthy Acting State Deputy and dear Brother James:

Please accept this report related to activities during the 2020-2021 Columbian Year pertaining to ceremonials in the State of New Jersey.

With the continued state of emergency related to the COVID 19 pandemic, the Supreme Council and New Jersey State Council have aggressively encouraged the use of the Charity, Unity, and Fraternity Degree with considerable success and have successfully brought in new members to the Order, converted on line members to members of local councils, and have advanced existing brothers to the Third Degree by use of the video presentation and in person exemplification of the Charity, Unity, and Fraternity Degree. Once a state of normalcy has been reinstated in New Jersey, the State Officers and local councils will be actively pressing for the formation of degree teams on the council level so that the degree can be presented live and in person.

A charge was given to the District Deputies at their mid-year meeting to have a degree team formed in each district by the end of this Columbian Year and, until the time that that goal is achieved, all brother Knights are encouraged to use the video presentation of the degree to continue the mission of bringing in new members to the Order and advancing brother Knights to the honors of the 3rd Degree.

For the 2020-2021 Columbian Year, each diocese had an appointed Degree Coordinator who served as a resource to local councils and assist them in developing a degree team and aiding them in the exemplification of the Charity, Unity, and Fraternity Degree. This position will be expanded and an even greater resource as restrictions are lifted in the State of New Jersey.

On behalf of the State Officers of New Jersey, we extend a heartfelt thank you to the brother Knights in New Jersey who have formed degree teams in their councils and continue the

fraternal mission of exemplifying Charity, Unity, and Fraternity to brother Knights across the State of New Jersey. I would like to thank my brother State Officers for participating in degree exemplifications which honored the service and memory of our departed State Deputy Vincent P. Tavormina. We will always recognize Vinnie's spirit and dedication to this order as we continue to carry on his mission as "Patriots Protecting All God's Children".

VIVAT JESUS!

Respectfully Submitted,
Russell D. Petrocelli, FM
New Jersey State Warden

“NOTHING CHANGES IF NOTHING CHANGES”