

*Religiously Devoted.
Patriotically Proud.*

COLOR CORPUS DRILL MANUAL



Knights of Columbus
**FOURTH
DEGREE**
Patriotic degree of the Order.

Knights of Columbus

FOURTH DEGREE

**COLOR CORPS
DRILL MANUAL**

**APPROVED BY VOTE OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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FOREWORD

This manual provides the accepted drill procedures of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. It has been developed for use by Fourth Degree Color Corps as a standard for uniform drill procedures; Honor Guard/Color Guard procedures; and the Manual of the Sword.

Uniform drill procedures will enable individual Sir Knights to drill with other assemblies, and will facilitate participation of entire assemblies to drill as a part of a larger unit. Sir Knights can drill with confidence of knowing that their participation will be compatible anywhere.

It must be kept in mind, however, that the exact Color Corps protocol in specific ceremonies (procedures at Mass, processions, wakes, burials, watches, escorting dignitaries, laying a cornerstone, church dedications, etc.) cannot be foreseen entirely because of the differing procedures in local dioceses and parishes.

It is required that the Master of a District receive approval from the respective Ordinary of each Diocese within his District concerning the specific activities of the Color Corps in religious ceremonies.

Use or non-use of the sword shall be subject to the determination of the Master of the District, AFTER his consultation with the Ordinary of the Diocese whose policies shall prevail. When the sword is used this manual will be the reference for its use.

It is most imperative that the Assembly Color Corps Commander or Marshal coordinate the activities of the Color Corps with the celebrant or Master of Ceremonies prior to the start of a religious ceremony. It can often happen that many of the procedures identified in this manual may not be carried out based on space and/or liturgical limitations.

In any areas not covered specifically by this manual, a decision can be made at the discretion of the Vice Supreme Master or the Master of the District.

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Color Corps Drill Manual
General Information



PURPOSE OF THE COLOR CORPS OF THE FOURTH DEGREE

When knighthood was in flower, knights carried the sword to defend their God, their Church, their country and their fellow man according to the code of chivalry. Today, Sir Knights wear regalia and carry the sword to honor Christ and His apostles, especially on religious and civic occasions specified in this manual. Hence, the primary purpose of the Fourth Degree is to encourage active Catholic citizenship and foster the spirit of patriotism in members and the community at large.

The Color Corps members exemplify all the principles of our Order:

- **Charity** - by the gift of their time and energies necessary to practice, perfect and perform the ceremonials and sword drill;
- **Unity** - by the united efforts of Sir Knights to practice and perfect a coordinated drill for the good of the Church and the Order;
- **Fraternity** - by expressing an "Esprit de Corps," sharing a common desire for drill excellence and camaraderie; and
- **Patriotism** - by performing precision drill as a salute to God and to country and visually exhibiting a love for both.

The public appearance of Fourth Degree Knights as a Color Corps at religious and civic functions is an important activity of each assembly. Their colorful capes and chapeaux add dignity and the pride of Church and country to any event. By these public demonstrations their loyalties bring credit to themselves and to the Knights of Columbus.

ABBREVIATION GUIDE OF THE FOURTH DEGREE

Supreme Master -	S.M.
Vice Supreme Master -	V.S.M.
Master of the District -	M.F.D.
Marshal -	M.
Faithful Navigator -	F.N.
Color Corps Commander -	C.C.C.
Color Corps -	C.C.
Color Guard -	C.G.
Honor Guard -	H.G.

