

Knights of Columbus

Fr. Hennepin Province Michigan District 1 – Archdiocese of Detroit

SK Mark Brezenski Master of the Fourth Degree

Fr. Eric Fedewa
District Friar

June 9, 2020

Subject: Honor Guard Guidelines

Worthy Sir Knights,

With Church's reopening and settling on new procedures from the Archdiocese of Detroit and state guidelines for social distancing, our fallouts need to adapt to these changes as well. The following procedures are recommended for this district moving forward, keep in mind these are guidelines, ultimately the Priest will have final say as to what we can do in his Parish as before. Keep in mind we need to be patient and cooperate with our Parishes in any way we can and use our best judgement when assignments resume. It is understood that the following does not meet the requirements in our drill manual, we will resume those practices once it is suitable to do so.

Corporate Communions

- 1. Upon arrival at Church, dress out at your vehicle. This eliminates additional exposure within the buildings and to each other.
- 2. Wear a black facemask, this is mandated by Supreme.
- Meet outside of the Church maintaining a social distance from each other and the congregation. The only person to enter the Church is the Commander/Marshal prior to Mass starting to speak with the Priest, if possible, contact the Priest during the week to complete details.
- 4. No more than five minutes before Mass begins, enter the Church single file maintaining a 5-6 foot distance. Once Mass begins, process down the aisle still in single file, the Commander/Marshal will stop, salute, and keep going. The Commander/Marshal can choose which direction he chooses and the second in line goes the other way. Simply, the odd numbers in line will go left and the even numbers go right. Proceed to the back of the Church to scabbard the swords and remove beret, always maintaining distance. Enter the pew as usual.
- 5. Per Archdiocese directive, presentation of the gifts has been suspended.
- 6. At the conclusion of Mass, proceed to the to front of Altar down the side aisles, opposite of processing in and start up the center aisle in single file until the last man is at the first

2439 Westwood Drive, Rochester Hills, Michigan 48306

- pew facing the back of the Church. When Father bows, the Commander/Marshal, who is the only one facing the altar, salutes and turns to exit Church, no arch of swords should be used.
- 7. The Commander/Marshal leads the team to an open location in the parking lot for the usual closing. Keep it short as parishioners will be filing out, return to your vehicle to remove regalia and have a safe ride home.

Casket Watch

- 1. Due to limitations on the amount of people for viewing only 1 Honor Guard will be at the casket at any given time.
- 2. The procedure for casket watches will be similar to the existing practice except that there will not be a Commander/Marshal present to lead.
- 3. If the first man is at the head of the casket, the relief man will approach and stop facing the casket near the foot of the casket. The man at the head of the casket steps out, turns to face the casket and both men salute facing the casket as per procedure. The man at the foot of the casket steps in to begin his duty, the man being relieved dismisses himself.
- 4. After a predetermined amount of time, the next man goes to the head of the casket, facing it. The man at the foot of the casket then steps out, turns, and both salute while facing the casket. The man at the head of the casket steps in and the man at the foot is dismissed.
- 5. Repeat steps 2 and 3 until the watch is complete.
- 6. It is unlikely at this time that a Rosary will happen; if so, use common sense and social distancing during that time if applicable. Chalice presentations should be performed the same way, do what makes the most sense.

Parades

1. Parades are possibly the easiest, maintain social distancing prior to the parade and when in formation during the parade. Once the parade is concluded, have a closing and depart.

Other

Please contact me with requests that do not fall into these categories or for special requests, we can discuss options to assure safety for all involved.

Remember that black masks shall be worn at all times during any fallouts until we are relieved of that requirement through either the Archdiocese of Detroit or state guidelines.

If anyone has any questions or suggestions regarding this memorandum please contact me and we can discuss. Be reminded that these are guidelines and depending on the situation can have deviations, that is fine, however always keep in mind the safety of yourself and others.

Vivat Jesus,

Mark Brezenski Master, Michigan District 1